

Children's Newspaper

Every Tuesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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HAVE PLANES REACHED THE LIMIT IN SIZE?

Silicones May Help to Make Them Bigger

THE Bristol Brabazon air-liner is often described as a "giant" among planes, but this is only because British aircraft manufacturers have never produced anything bigger. Why, it might be asked, can they not design and build a plane as big as the Queen Mary?

The answer is that they could—with comparative ease—but that its great weight would prevent such an aircraft flying and landing safely. The surfaces of our landing fields as they exist at present would simply cave in, and the plane would be wrecked.

Recent experiments, however, suggest that this problem may soon be overcome. Chemists have been studying the remarkable properties of materials called "silicones." They have discovered that silicone liquids can be compressed nearly 25 per cent more than petroleum liquids.

Absorbing the Shock

If silicones are used in the "liquid spring" hydraulic shock absorbers in aeroplane landing gear it may mean that enormous aeroplanes will be able to land safely. The shock of hitting the ground would be absorbed 25 per cent more efficiently.

Silicones come from silica, a substance which enters into the composition of most minerals found in the earth, since it is the chief constituent of the Earth's surface. They are made up of silicon atoms joined to each other by oxygen atoms in a complex pattern and are very resistant to heat.

Chemists have been making wonderful new substances from these silicones. They have produced special resins for making heat-resisting enamel that will soon provide a better surface for the kitchen stove. New industrial casting moulds are being coated with a special silicone liquid which prevents rubber or plastic sticking to the moulds when they have cooled.

Immune to Heat

A wonderful new rubber has been made, called "silastic," which stands up to extremes of heat and cold that would ruin natural rubber, or the old synthetic kind. Silicone liquids have been produced that prevent the foaming of churned-up oil in crank-cases. A translucent paste—one that can be seen through—has been made from silicones to insulate aircraft ignition systems and joints in radar instruments. Silicone insulation is almost entirely immune to heat and moisture, and lasts many times longer than other types.

Other useful substances, besides silicones, that also come from the abundant silica in the earth include glass, mica, and asbestos.

THE U.S. IN ONE SINGLE PHOTO

A SINGLE photograph showing the United States from coast to coast has just been displayed.

It is 192 feet long, and is composed of 390 exposures taken at a height of eight miles by a photographic reconnaissance aircraft on a non-stop flight from the Pacific coast to the Atlantic coast. The photograph shows clearly how the density of population and industry increases from west to east.

Caterpillars Make a Tasty Dish

THE Masarwa tribe that lives in the district of Serowe in Bechuanaland has an inexhaustible supply of food in the mopani tree.

But it is not the fruit of this tree that the natives search for so diligently; it is the caterpillar that thrives on the leaves.

The natives gather these caterpillars, which are about four inches long, and make a kind of biltong or dried meat of them. This is regarded as a great delicacy by the people of the district, and sacks of this strange food are sold to the black men and women who live in the towns. In its dried form the caterpillar may be baked in an oven, or stewed in a pan, and when served with pumpkins and mealie meal is eaten with great relish.

PENSIONED FOR 70 YEARS

IN South Africa there is an old soldier who has been drawing a pension for 70 years. Mr E. H. Lavin, who is now 87, earned the pension in 1879 when he volunteered to take the place of a married man who was called up for active service by the Grahams-town Yeomanry against the Basutos.

He was at Kalabani when the mounted enemy charged through the British ranks armed with battle axes and killed some 30 troopers. He was shot through the arm and stabbed with assegais but survived.

Later he was shot from his horse and gravely wounded at Twee Spruit, and was awarded the pension for life which he is still drawing.



LOOKING UP TO THEM

The picturesque costume of the old-time drummer in a London military review made a great impression on five-year-old David Watts (left). In San Francisco two-year-old Bobby McAddo looked and listened as the music went round and round—and came out here↓

BARNACLES KEPT AT BAY

Speeding-Up Ships

EVER since the first iron ship was built a fight has been waged against barnacles, limpets, and the other marine creatures which accumulate on bottom plates, rusting and rotting them and also slowing up ships. The struggle has cost millions of pounds, and has caused much unemployment among seamen because of their ships having to lie idle in dry dock for cleaning when they should have been at sea.

Dock workers did not relish the job of scraping off the offenders, moreover, as the rust had to be minutely chipped off before new paint was applied. Then came a new technique. The shells were blasted off with sand projected through high-power nozzles. Today, in some docks, brushes with bristles of flame are swept over the plates and the shell creatures swiftly release their hold.

Now scientists have evolved an anti-fouling compound which is being applied to new ships building on the Clyde. It is of a rich chocolate colour but impregnated with bitter-tasting chemicals which under test the shell creatures disliked. The compound also presents a glass-smooth surface.



TREES OF THE FREE

IN the heart of Auckland, New Zealand, there is a pleasant expanse of woodland and playing fields known as the Domain. Here also is a splendid museum built as a memorial to men who died in the First World War.

Now, as a permanent reminder of the unity between the Allied Nations in the Second World War the Auckland people propose to set aside a corner of the Domain for the trees of the Free Nations.

Among these trees will be oaks from Britain, maples from Canada, wattles from Australia, silver trees from South Africa, ficus from India, olives from Greece, redwoods from the United States, and spruce from Norway.

Such a collection of the trees of the Free Nations will be a living memorial to the millions who fought for democracy, as well as of great educational value to young New Zealanders.

Towards Real Unity in Europe

A MEETING which may result in many peaceful changes in Europe took place in London during the first week of May. Round a table in St James's Palace there met the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxemburg, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Italy, and Ireland. Their aim was to draft a constitution for the Council of Europe.

What is the Council of Europe? As CN readers know, there exist many organisations, such as the Western Union and the Office of European Economic Co-operation, for knitting democratic Europe into one whole. Each of these is looking after some of Europe's needs and problems and is trying its best to help our part of the world recover from its present troubles.

None of them, however, is supposed to look beyond the immediate future when our present difficulties are overcome. It is the Council of Europe which must plan for what will follow. It has, indeed, been specially charged with finding ways and means of creating a future federal and democratic European State.

A Step Forward

A most important factor is that the Council is sponsored by Governments and not individuals. A great number of private organisations are aiming at precisely the same objective, but there is a world of difference between efforts by private persons and by Governments. The significance of the London Conference lies, therefore, in the fact that it is the Governments which have now taken up the idea of prompting a unity of Europe. This is a tremendous step forward.

Naturally certain difficulties preceded the recent conference, and others are bound to arise before Europe is unified. Briefly, some of the ten nations, especially France, wished to give the Council a much greater voice in the management of European affairs than others, among them Britain, were willing to. These more cautious members certainly did not wish to restrict, let alone abolish, any part of national sovereignty by creating the Council of Europe. Britain, which has very complex relations with her Commonwealth, must be especially careful in order not to upset the delicate balance existing in that Commonwealth.

Compromise

The long deliberations of the delegates of the ten member nations have resulted in a very sensible compromise. It has been agreed that such important matters as defence shall not be touched by the Council of Europe at all. The Council itself is to be divided into two parts—a Committee of Ministers where decisions, in order to be valid, must be taken unanimously, and a Consultative Assembly which can give advice to member States after passing resolutions by a two-thirds majority vote.

The Council of Europe which, it is hoped, will meet later this year in Strasbourg will thus be an advisory body. But even this means considerable progress, for the ten Governments have said in effect: Let us see what foundations can be laid for a real Federation of Europe. These foundations will be laid in a free and unhampered discussion—the lifeblood of democracy.

So even within the limits imposed by present conditions there is a vast amount of work that the Council of Europe can, and certainly will, do. Defence of human rights, and economic and social matters, for example, demand many improvements.

Furthermore, the membership of the Council is likely to be increased. Already Turkey and Greece have applied to be admitted to this new community. Their entry has been postponed until the Council is actually in being. Then, with the creation of a Government in Germany, that country, too, will probably want to join the Council. To this no serious opposition should arise because both Britain and France wish to have Germany linked with the democratic order of things in Europe. Though nobody can predict how long it will take for the small acorn now being planted to grow into a mighty oak, no more important work has been done in Europe's history for many centuries past.

Lost Ball, Lost Game

Two juvenile league football teams started a match at Portknockie, in Banffshire. The pitch is near the cliffs and only three minutes after the start of the game a lusty kick sent the ball over the cliff into a local landmark called the Cave of Divit. Both teams, as well as the referee, left the field and for a whole hour searched for the ball. But they were unsuccessful, and as no other ball was available they all went home.

HANDWRITING TEST

THE work of judging the many thousands of entries for the CN's great Handwriting Test is now complete and the names of the chief prizewinners will be given next week. The number of consolation prizes has been greatly increased.

IN next week's CN, too, there will appear the first of a new series of competitions with a bicycle offered each week as first prize.

Make sure of your CN by ordering it now.

Ships Refuel Here!

THE largest fuel-oil depot for commercial ships in the Mediterranean has just been opened at Algiers at a ceremony presided over by the Governor-General of Algeria.

The steam and electric pumping equipment is considered to provide the most efficient ship-fuelling system in the world. Tankers can discharge at the rate of 1400 tons an hour, and ships can load at more than 1200 tons an hour. Seven squat tanks at the depot have a capacity of 28,000 tons.

OUR SHOP WINDOW

THE British Industries Fair—the 28th since the first was held in 1915—has once again opened its gates at Olympia, Earl's Court, and Birmingham to welcome thousands of home and overseas buyers. As in former years the 1949 BIF was a very large and important affair. It is estimated that there were no fewer than 26 miles of "shop window" avenues where one could inspect and buy everything from a pin to a locomotive.

High hopes are always set on the Fair, but especially today when the "going" on our export markets is more difficult. And as far as the CN reporter could see the 2300 British manufacturers who had stands at the Fair have not let the country down. They succeeded in assembling an assortment of goods the like of which would be difficult to find anywhere in the world.

Visitors to Birmingham found all the machines that an advanced country may wish to buy—gleaming Diesel locomotives, enormous mechanical excavators, refrigerators, and high-definition television apparatus.

Heralds of a New Age

The most striking thing about the Earl's Court section was that it was the greatest assembly of British textile products—one of the best sources of much-needed dollars—ever brought together at one centre.

At Olympia the number of exhibits of outstanding interest was enormous. It was not easy to single out any particular development, but two of them seem to be heralds of a new age. The first was the Supply Ministry's exhibit of radio-active by-products of our atomic energy research centre. It gave an inkling of the scope of the peaceful application of atomic power for industry and medicine—a great, yet undeveloped, field. The other exhibit showed the latest development in photographic composition of print. Briefly, this means that instead of using type metal (which is now needed for all forms of letterpress printing) the newspaper of the future will project letters in their proper sequence on to a film strip. The film strip will help in making plates representing whole pages from which impressions will be made. This is indeed a giant step forward in printing, as important to mankind perhaps as the invention of Gutenberg five centuries ago.

It is good to know that in these and other fields Britain not only leads the world in scientific developments but also in making her achievements available to all its peoples through her export trade.

For Stamp Collectors

ALL stamp collectors who wish to become specialists will welcome the reappearance of Postage Stamps in the Making, by F. J. Melville, rewritten and completed by John Easton (Faber, 21s).

It contains a mine of information on stamp printing from the earliest methods to those of today. The technical processes are explained and illustrated so that any teen-ager can understand them. It makes good reading and is interesting even to a non-collector.

NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

MILL MEALS

Abbey Mill, Winchester, has been turned into a restaurant by the Corporation. The mill-race flows below. A mill on this site served St Mary's Abbey, founded by Ealhswith, King Alfred's queen.

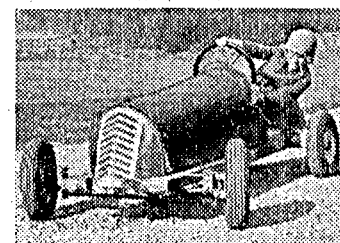
The Gilt Cross has been awarded to 14-year-old Scout Rhys Williams, of the 3rd Harlow Group, who rescued a boy from drowning in the River Stort at Roydon, Herts, last July.

The King's first public engagement since his illness is to be on June 21 when, accompanied by the Queen, he will open "Colonial Month" and the Colonial Exhibition at Church House, Westminster.

The Old Baby

The first baby born in the City of Vancouver, British Columbia, recently attended a birthday dinner given in her honour. She is Miss Margaret McNeil, aged 63.

For the first time for 21 years a flying-boat has alighted on the Thames. It was a 35-ton Short Solent. It came down on Limehouse Reach and taxied up to its moorings off Tower Pier. It came to celebrate the 30th year of British commercial aviation.



This six-year-old motorist can do 15 m.p.h. in his 1/2 h.p. car designed by his father. It is powered by an electric motor and two car batteries.

Gravesend had a notable Festival of Youth on May 7, with a May Queen's procession and coronation, and traditional folk dancing.

A bar of soap is the price of admission to a dance at Witterberg College, Springfield, Ohio, and it is hoped that 1500 bars will thus be collected for French hospitals.

A blind law student, Eve Hardiman, aged 29, of Rotherham, Yorkshire, who last year gained her LL.B. degree with honours at Birmingham University, has passed the intermediate examination for becoming a solicitor.

Good Gardening

While planting seedlings in her garden a Southampton lady found a Roman gold coin of the period A.D. 286-305. It had been minted in London.

Model houses carved out of local chalk were among the exhibits at a recent arts and crafts exhibition held by the Coulsdon and Purley Youth Council.

The national efficiency shield open to competition by Young Farmers' Clubs in England and Wales, has this year been won by the Llandilo Club, Carmarthen-shire.

The British Book Centre which has been opened in New York is the result of the co-operation of 27 leading British publishing companies.

FLYING PIG

A 22-stone pedigree pig that left London by air for Switzerland not long ago is called Mr Packwood III.

TURNING THE TABLES

A New Jersey cat had to be treated by a veterinary surgeon after being bitten on the nose by a mouse. A cow in Ohio inoculated a veterinary surgeon by backing against him and driving the needle into his hand as he was about to inoculate her.

A small exhibition of modern Dutch books is on view at the Royal Society of Arts, John Adam Street, London, until June 4. Publications produced secretly during the German occupation are included. Admission is free.

Archaeologists are to take advantage of an exceptionally low tide at Morecambe Bay on May 18 to try to find the remains of a Roman port. The sandy site will be uncovered by the sea for only two hours, and road-digging machines will be used.

Sales of British shoes in America are to increase from 24,000 to 1,000,000 pairs a year, according to Mr A. G. Bottomley, Secretary for Overseas Trade.

Old Crafts

A Folk Museum has been opened at Blaise Castle House, Henbury, near Bristol. Among the old crafts illustrated are clay-pipe making, pin-making, and ship-carving. There are rush-light holders and queer nut-crackers. Two old Bristol shop fronts have been re-erected inside the house.

A new shop-window lighting has been invented by a German engineer in Münster; it automatically switches on when anyone approaches, and off when they leave.

There are four classes of members of the new Hotel and Catering Institute: Fellows, Members, Associate Members, and Students. All sections of the catering industry are supporting the Institute. Students will be learners between 16 and 25, taking an approved course of study.

British helicopters are to fly to Normandy this month to help in a campaign against Colorado beetles.

Tuckshop Sold

Rowland's, in Eton High Street, which has been a famous Eton College tuckshop—called a "sock" shop for nearly 100 years—was recently sold for £3000.

Thousands of entries have been received from children in the Anglo-American zone of Germany for an essay competition on "What does E.R.P. mean to you?" A four-week trip to Britain or the U.S. is the prize for the writers of the two best essays.

The motor industry in March exceeded by £600,000 its new monthly export target of £5,500,000.

Owing to the indiscriminate killing of partridges for the market, the Cornwall County Council has made an order protecting these birds.

KITTENAPPER

When a cat named Poodles, of Shoreham, Kent, had kittens not long ago, a female sheepdog living in the same house immediately took the kittens away and adopted them herself, refusing to allow the cat to come near them. The dog has proved a good mother.

During Road Safety Week at King's Lynn, Norfolk, the police warned 2345 pedestrians about carelessness.

Eyre is a Lake Once More

THE few Australians who live near their country's biggest lake, Eyre, and others who have had an opportunity of visiting it, have for some weeks past been gazing at it in wonder—simply because there is an expanse of water there! Only quite old people can remember seeing such a sight, for it is 60 years since it was a real lake.

Lake Eyre is 4000 square miles in area and over 100 miles across, but for years people arriving on its "shores" have seen only a vast stretch of salt and sand.

During the first three months of this year there were torrential rains in regions west of the lake which turned a district almost as large as England and Wales into a wide sea. Planes had to para-

chute food to the marooned inhabitants. The water poured through Cooper's Creek into the dry bed of Lake Eyre.

Though the rains were disastrous at first, they will prove a blessing for Australians and, perhaps, for us in Britain too, for, away from the lake, the water is soaking into great areas of parched land and is causing them to become tracts of grassy verdure.

Grass which will grow to a height of several feet will dry in the warm sun and leave thousands of square miles of herbage as nutritious food for cattle. This means that for several years there will be ample food for fattening cattle and grazing sheep.



Good Shot

A textile mill at Colne in Lancashire has its own film studio and cinema. Here we see workers making a film in the factory nursery.

ADVERTISING JAUNT

A MAN and his dog who are doing one of the world's odd jobs recently arrived in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, in a caravan plastered all over with hand-painted posters. The driver, Mr A. F. J. Hamilton, who is an artist, has been paid by manufacturers to go on a leisurely 12-month trip of 8000 miles through South Africa, the two Rhodesias, and the Belgian Congo advertising British and South African goods. His companion is his mastiff, Jinks.

The idea is Mr Hamilton's own. He had a breakdown in health in Cape Town and decided on making a caravan tour. Trying to think of a way of paying for this, he hit on the idea of making it a publicity ramble.

All in the Day's Work

OWEN YOUNG, a 17-year-old building apprentice, was engaged on repairing the parish church at Swaffham, Norfolk. As he came down the ladder he heard the builder and the stonemasons talking about a stone cross, weighing more than a hundredweight, which was to be placed at the east end of the roof.

The men went away to get a hoist and tackle, but when they returned the cross had gone. Then they saw it high above their heads. Owen had carried it up the ladder on his shoulders!

GETTING HIS GIFT

WHEN Mr R. V. A. Johnson, manager at Snowdown Colliery, in the Kent coalfield, left to take up an appointment in Australia, the officials and workmen subscribed to buy him a parting gift. Mr Johnson's choice was a new typewriter, but the donors discovered that all the machines of the model they wished to buy were being exported—to Australia!

So they had a suitably inscribed silver plate made and presented it, with a cheque, to Mr Johnson. He will be able to choose his own British-made machine when he arrives "down under."

Japanese Robinson Crusoes

TWO Japanese soldiers who had not seen another human being for five years have been found by natives on Manus Island, the largest of the Admiralty Islands, north of New Guinea. The two soldiers were wartime deserters from the Japanese army.

In February 1944, when Allied Forces landed on the island, the two soldiers agreed that they did not want to fight, so they ran away and hid in the high jungle-clad hills.

Manus Island is 60 miles long and the fugitives were easily able to disappear. They did not know

what had happened after the Allies landed and they feared to show themselves in case their own side had proved victorious and would shoot them as deserters. But they also feared the natives, who had a reputation for cannibalism.

For five years the two men have lived by themselves in the fastnesses of Manus, killing and eating wild pig and other game.

At last they were seen and captured by natives, who handed them over to the authorities. An inspector of the Royal Papuan Constabulary who has gone to Brisbane has told their story.

To Improve Your Game

THE LCC are providing more facilities for young sports players to improve their game in the London parks this summer. Concrete cricket pitches are to be laid down at Blackheath, Clapham Common, Golder's Hill, and Hackney Marsh.

When he was here last year Don Bradman often advocated the use of concrete pitches, which he regarded as one of the best methods of training young players where first-class grass wickets were not available.

Another new idea is special tennis practice courts. These consist of a half-court and a wall where players can practise a variety of shots on their own.

The LCC have also approved a scheme for engaging honorary games coaches.

WELSH MUSEUM

HUNDREDS of costumes collected from Welsh sources over the last 20 years, and never before exhibited, are now displayed at the Welsh Folk Museum at St Fagan's Castle, Cardiff. This Elizabethan mansion, the gift of Lord Plymouth, illustrates with its great variety of furnishings the domestic life of the Welsh nobility during 400 years.

In the eighty acres of parkland will be set up various buildings from different parts of Wales. They will include moorland and valley farms and outbuildings, with implements characteristic of the older Wales. Craftsmen such as the turner and the basket-maker are at work producing their wares for sale to visitors.

Scotland's Famous Fiddler

A PLAQUE has just been unveiled on the cottage at Inver, Dunkeld, where Scotland's famous fiddler Niel Gow was born and brought up. In addition to a wide popularity as a player Niel Gow composed over a hundred strathspeys and laments, and gave a new impetus to Scottish music. His youngest son, Nathaniel, composed among other songs the popular Callers' Herrin'.

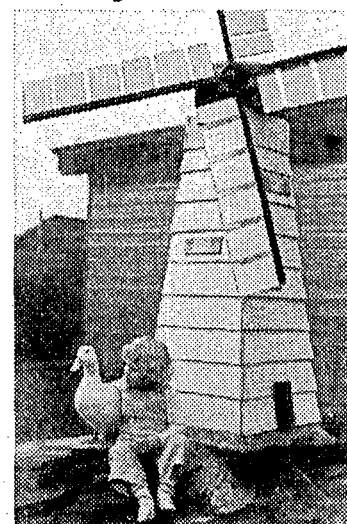
The plaque, which acknowledges the contribution of the Gow family to the music of Scotland, shows the fiddler in a characteristic attitude, and bears the names of Niel Gow (1727-1807), his son Nathaniel (1766-1831), and Nathaniel's son Niel Gow Junior (1795-1823). Underneath is the apt quotation: *Nae fabled wizard's wand, I trow,*

*Had e'er the magic art o' Gow,
When with a wave he draws his bow
Across his wondrous fiddle.*

GOOD TABLE

AN unusual piece of furniture designed by an ex-squadron leader has been lent to a London club for Overseas visitors. It is a table with the chairs built in, the only legs being those of the table, on each of which one of the chairs swings. When not in use the chairs swing underneath the table, out of the way.

By the Mill



A little visitor to the Children's Zoo at Regent's Park, London, makes friends with a duck by the model windmill.

Scientists Back From Macquarie

THIRTEEN scientists who for the past 14 months have been conducting the Macquarie Island meteorological and research station 1000 miles south of Hobart, Tasmania, have now returned to Melbourne.

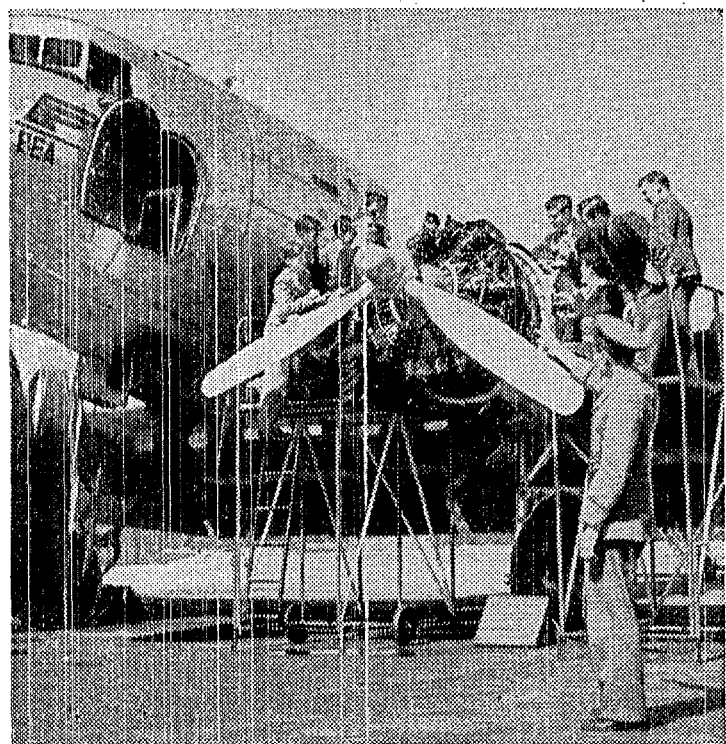
They returned with 12 long beards—one of the party shaved daily—60 penguins of four species for Melbourne and Sydney Zoos, and a wealth of useful meteorological and scientific data.

They were glad to return; they were tired of the drizzling rain and low cloud which constantly swept the 75-square-mile island.

HOW TO BAT

A NEW film on Cricket has been made for the National Committee for Visual Aids in Education.

Len Hutton of Yorkshire demonstrates the main strokes in shots from matches and from the nets. They can be repeatedly shown. Sequences are also shown of Mr H. P. Crabtree, the Essex cricketer and county physical education officer, instructing boys in stroke play as a form of drill.



Looking Into It

Thirteen London schoolboys, winners of a British Airways competition, were the guests for a day of British European Airways at Northolt Airport. Here they are inspecting a Dakota's engine.

Butterflies Wing Their Way to Britain

ERIC GILLETT SAYS THAT PASSPORT TO PIMLICO IS ...

The Best British Humorous Film

We are all familiar with the migration of birds, but many people do not know that some of our butterflies come to us from abroad. May and June are the months when the adventurous Painted Lady, Clouded Yellow, and Red Admiral butterflies cross the English Channel. Later, in the autumn, their offspring will have spread to most parts of Britain.

The Painted Lady is a remarkable migrant, having spread to most parts of the world. But it is a delicate butterfly, and cannot spend the winter in any part of Europe in any of its stages. But it breeds at this time of the year in North Africa.

When spring comes, a mysterious urge to fly northwards comes over the butterflies, and they cross the Mediterranean and begin working their way right across Europe. Early in June you may see the first Painted Ladies flying straight and swift across the fields of southern England. They stop for no more than a few seconds to sip nectar from a wayside flower, and then hurry on again. But the females lay their eggs a few at a time on thistles, and from these come the large numbers of Painted Ladies often seen in gardens in autumn.



The Painted Lady

Sometimes, in warm summers, Painted Ladies have even reached Iceland—about 2000 miles from their North African home.

The Painted Lady has been seen hundreds of miles from land,

flitting bravely over the waves. Two of these butterflies were noted half-way between Newfoundland and Ireland in 1865, when the first Atlantic cable was being laid.

The Clouded Yellow comes to us in small numbers from the south of Europe about May or June. They live in the caterpillar stage on clover and lucerne, and the progeny of these immigrants are often abundant in fodder fields in autumn. But not one of the thousands of these golden beauties can survive the winter in Britain.

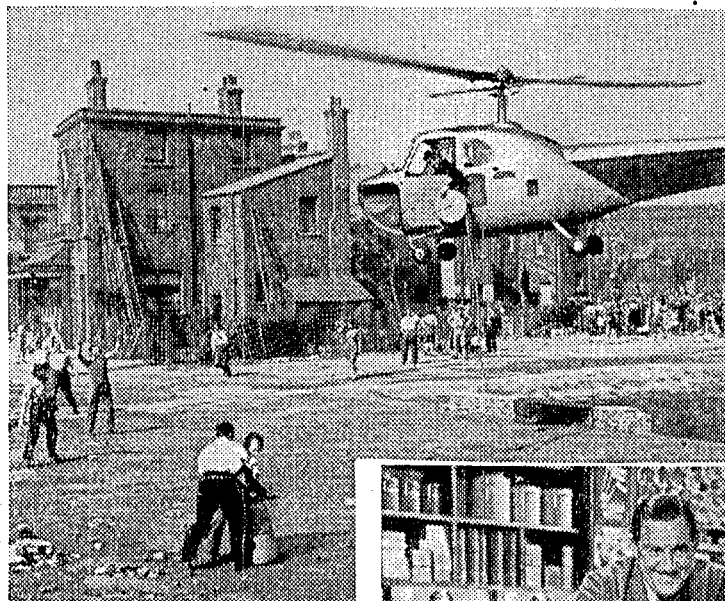
Some butterflies are said to settle on the sea in calm weather for a short rest. But the old idea that they were blown over by strong winds has been disproved. Butterflies have been seen battling against head winds, pushing onward in one set direction.

Among our Large and Small Cabbage Whites are migrants which have taken an odd route. Starting from Sweden they fly southward to the Netherlands and North France, then turn north-west across the North Sea and English Channel into Britain.

Another butterfly which comes to us from Scandinavia is the Camberwell Beauty, but its route is straight across the North Sea from Norway.

Some butterflies, such as the Queen of Spain Fritillary and the Long-tailed Blue, only occasionally migrate to Britain. The Bath White was one of our rarest migrants until 1945, when a swarm appeared along the south coast, and over 600 were captured. Previously, over a period of 115 years only 366 Bath Whites had been recorded.

But easily the most enterprising migrant is the Monarch or Milkweed butterfly, which apparently flies the Atlantic. It cannot breed here for the simple reason that the foodplant—milkweed—is not found wild in Europe. Nevertheless, in the past 60 years over 50 specimens have been caught, mostly in Cornwall and other parts of the south coast. Once several of these butterflies were seen 400 miles out from Glasgow by a ship that was going from Britain to America.



Airlift to beleaguered Burgundy—the flying milkman arrives

EALING Studios and Sir Michael Balcon, who produced *Passport to Pimlico*, are to be congratulated on 84 minutes of riotous comic invention, and the whole thing is as English as it can be up to the very last inch of celluloid. The film has just had its first showing in London. Here is a film that will appeal not only to people who listen to the BBC's Third Programme, but also to those who keep the Light Programme on all day and hardly ever listen to it at all.

Recently a well-known film star said that if the critics praise a picture the public stay away from it. There has been an almost universal chorus of approval by the critics about *Passport to Pimlico*, and the reports received from people who have paid to see it are just as favourable. It looks as though it will prove an exception to the film star's rule.

Two years ago Ealing Studios made *Hue and Cry*, a very lively film with a London background. The excellent screen play was written by T. E. B. Clarke. His is certainly a name to watch as he has now completed the script of *Passport to Pimlico*, and it is funnier still. The director is

shall be for ever Burgundy. The residents of Pimlico gradually realise that they are not Londoners at all but citizens of Burgundy, a prosperous duchy in 15th century France.

This is the idea which gives the fullest possible scope to the producer, director, and script writer, and also to the admirable cast they have engaged. Watch Stanley Holloway as the Burgundian Prime Minister negotiating with Messrs Nauntun Wayne and Basil Radford, who speak for Britain. Notice Hermione Baddeley, one of Burgundy's leading personalities, when she realises that no British restrictions, rationing, clothing coupons, and so on, apply to her any



Two young customers for Arthur (Stanley Holloway)

Henry Cornelius, associate producer of *Hue and Cry*. There is no doubt that the success of *Passport to Pimlico* will be international. It is light and deft, like some of René Clair's French comedies. It deals with a state of affairs that is common to all civilised nations.

Did you know that all Embassies and Consulates are regarded as being the soil of their respective countries? The central idea of *Passport to Pimlico* is based on this fact. London's last unexploded bomb is exploded accidentally, and the explosion reveals a vault full of treasure and a 15th-century Royal Charter decreeing that the estate

longer. Above all enjoy the superb performance of Miss Margaret Rutherford as the eccentric Professor of Medieval History who discovers the truth about Burgundy.

The real triumph of the picture is with the script writer and the director. There are so many happy touches that it is impossible to take them all in at a first viewing of the film. Many people will return to see *Passport to Pimlico* because it has something to say much more serious than its gay surface would lead one to expect. A delightful entertainment, it throws a searchlight on various aspects of the British character.

INVENTIONS WE WERE SPARED—A BOOK OF CRANKS

It is never wise to laugh at inventors, for so often in the past they have had the last laugh.

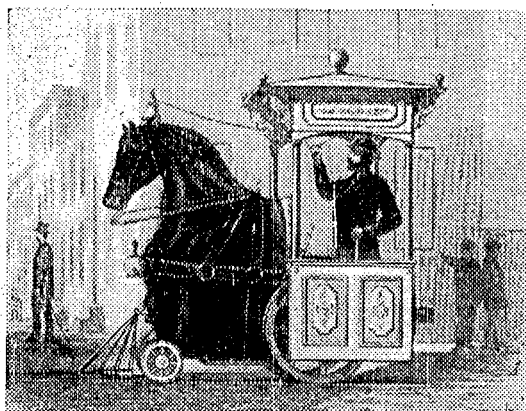
Apart from the works of Nature, everything we see about us in our daily lives was invented by somebody at some time. There have never been any limits to the field for invention, for it is as boundless as the needs of mankind. Ever since the day when some unknown genius invented the first wheel, there have always been ingenious folk who were anxious to make life easier—though some say more complicated—by inventing things.

Some of them, of course, were benefactors of the human race whose ideas have contributed immeasurably to our civilisation. But the cranks are always with us, and never were they more busy than during the past century. Now the misdirected efforts of many of these well-meaning inventors form the material for a most amusing

book by Fred Coppersmith and J. J. Lynx, *Patent Applied For* (Co-ordination, 10s 6d).

Many of the fantastic inventions dealt with in this book never got beyond the "paper" stage, others led to the bankruptcy of their optimistic sponsors, while a few enjoyed a modest measure of success before they went out of fashion or were superseded by fresh novelties. It is difficult to believe that some of the most extraordinary gadgets were ever meant to be taken seriously. Some inventors must have intended to invent a demand for their inventions!

As we turn these pages, with their amusing illustrations, we soon come upon a reminder that our hilarity should be tempered with respect, for we find that one of these "Heath Robinson" machines was the work of none other than Thomas Edison,



The tram that looked like a horse

the greatest inventor of them all. It seems that one of his women acquaintances complained that pedalling a sewing-machine tired her feet. Edison remembered an old experiment in which sound waves were converted into power, so he constructed a sewing-machine with a membrane mounted on it just level with the worker's mouth. All the seamstress had to do was to keep on talking, and the sound waves of her voice were transformed into power which turned the machine. Perhaps only a deaf man like Edison could have made such a device!

Another sewing-machine which was actually used in some households in Britain, until it was banned, was powered by a dog on a leash running round a circular platform.

But if some inventors were thoughtless about cruelty to animals there was at least one who went to the extreme in the other direction. He was an

American engineer who was concerned about the effect upon horses' nerves when the new-fangled steam trams were introduced on the streets of Boston. He suggested that the trams should be disguised to look like horses, and one vehicle camouflaged in this way actually ran for a time. History does not relate what the horses thought of it, but certainly the citizens found it diverting.

The realm of transport has naturally been a happy hunting-ground for the inventors, and here we find many weird and wonderful vehicles and vessels. Some of them do not look particularly safe, but here again the resourceful inventors have provided for the safety of travellers. For instance, a Frenchman wanted all trains to have rails running over their roofs, so that head-on collisions could be averted by one train simply running right over the other and coming down safely on the other side.

OTHER PEOPLE'S JOBS—In this special interview Alan Ivimey talks with a . . . "TRAFFIC COP"

SCOTLAND YARD has a tremendous problem in dealing with London's traffic which, remember, kills two people and injures a hundred every day of the year. So the Yard maintains a special Department, "B," to look after traffic and maintains a fleet of some 112 cars and 136 motor cycles, with 600 men.

So let us meet one of these men of the Traffic Patrol. His name is Jack Street, he's from Suffolk, six feet tall, and joined the Metropolitan Police in 1935. After a war spell as a navigator in Coastal Command he went back to his old job and then applied for a transfer to the Traffic Branch. He was already in the habit of riding a motor cycle when he went home to Ipswich on leave.

WITH several years' experience "on the beat" behind him, Jack's application for transfer was accepted and off he went to the Police Driving School at Hendon for their Elementary Driving Course—though most folk wouldn't find it so "elementary"

—which lasts five weeks. From there he was put to driving a patrol car in his old Division, "D," between Edgware Road and Portland Place, north of Oxford Street. Next he was sent to Wembley District Garage on traffic work, and so, after six months on cars, he took his three weeks' Motor Cycle Course, again at Hendon.

Learning to be a Traffic Cop isn't all driving. There is a lot of hard book work as well. He has to know the various Acts of Parliament which have to do with his job. There is the Road Traffic Act, for instance, and the Construction and Use Regulations which deal with the different types of motor vehicle and the offences in connection with them. For example, it is an offence to drive with faulty brakes, steering, or tyres. For these things a Traffic Patrol can summons a culprit but may not arrest him.

JACK also had to do a course of First Aid, which has to be repeated every three years. His priority job is Accidents and the

care of the injured; and then getting the road clear again.

Apart from accidents, we must remember that traffic is something which has to keep flowing through a big city, just as blood has to keep flowing through one's body. Any stoppage causes trouble—in the case of a big city it means loss of time. And time is money. So the traffic problem, in all its aspects, is studied, at Scotland Yard, where there are street maps mounted on screens. The maps are covered with little coloured flags to show how the Traffic War—for it is rather like that—is getting on. These flags show, by their colours and shapes, the places and the different types of accidents: whether they occurred by day or night, whether to an adult or a child; or show the type of accident—such as a pedestrian jumping off a bus and getting hurt.

ALL the time the campaign to better the present bad conditions is being planned from reports of the Traffic Patrol and other police. On the information shown by the little flags, Black Spot notices are put up by the local authorities, or guard rails at road junctions, or new traffic lights, or halt signs.

"It's sometimes amazing," said Jack, "what a difference these things make, immediately, at a dangerous spot."

London, you see, was mostly built in the days of horse traffic and most of the streets in the middle of it are far too narrow.

JACK works as a member of one of the Yard's 24 Traffic and Accident Groups; each Group consisting of a car, with two-way radio telephone, attended by two motor cyclists. When not called to accidents or other urgent business, such as special convoy work on some huge piece of machinery which has to cross London on a trailer, each group patrols a given area, pulling up now and then at road junctions and pedestrian crossings.

Jack pointed out that the object is not just to "catch" people breaking traffic regulations but to show them the error of their ways. And most people are now sensible enough to take these cautions in the right spirit. After all, the Traffic Cop is only trying to save life and limb.

JACK mentioned one girl he saw who, without looking either way, stepped out into the road from behind a stationary trolley-bus and was just, but only just, not run over by a passing lorry. He went up to her and pointed out that this wasn't a very wise thing to do, for her own sake, her family's, or that of the lorry driver.

"Well, I got over, didn't I?" was all she said, and seemed to think it was a bit of a joke. Unfortunately, too many of these "jokes" have a rather unpleasant ending.

"The boy of ten or twelve who has just been given a bicycle is one of our chief troubles," said Jack. "He loves to cycle just behind a lorry, using it as a wind-break. Suddenly the lorry pulls up—and the bicycle does NOT."

SOMETIMES the motor-cycle patrols are out on their own for a time. Their job is traffic,



Jack Street, the "Traffic Cop," pulls up to talk to Alan Ivimey

not crime—there are the Flying Squad and Area Wireless Patrols to see to that—but, of course, a policeman is always a policeman, and Jack often sees stolen cars whose numbers have been notified either by radio to the Group car, or else to the Groups before starting out.

"Then there's nothing you can do but follow," he pointed out. The machines used are Triumph Speed Twins of 500 cc and with a top speed of somewhere round 80 miles an hour. But there must be no speeding for speeding's sake, for a Traffic Cop has to be a model of road manners. Incidentally, the most frequent kind of summons that Jack has to take out is for exceeding the speed limit.

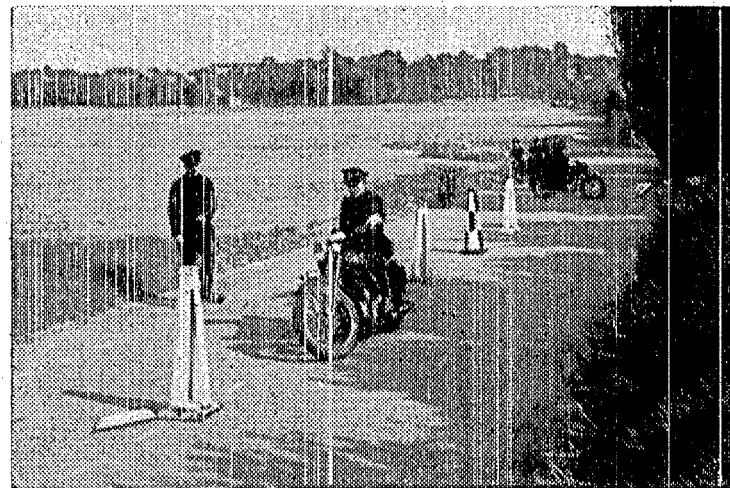
Every day after duty Jack has to turn in a record of petrol and oil used; and he is responsible for the cleaning of his machine. But all repairs are done by the garage mechanics.

HE gets some queer jobs sometimes. The other day he had to remove a pony and a donkey

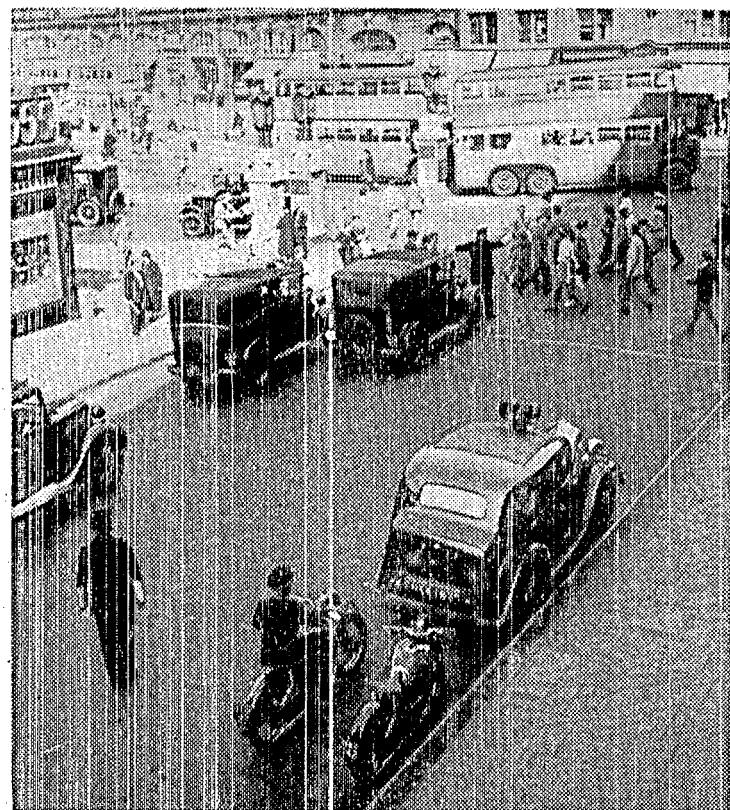
from the middle of a by-pass road. They had got out of their field and were just taking a walk together. Then there was the man who decided to do a little shooting with a rook rifle at the bottom of his garden. He didn't think where the bullets might go once they were through the target. The result was that Jack was stopped by a man who rushed into the road in white flannels gasping that the cricket match he was playing in was being bothered by bullets. One player had been hit, though only slightly.

Jack and his colleagues do a good job of work for the community, and often it's a pretty tough one. But life isn't all work, and this Jack isn't a dull boy. He plays soccer for his garage team and he also plays for the Metropolitan Police Squash Rackets team.

AND when he gets on his own private motor cycle to go home to Suffolk on leave, Jack tells me that he goes very, very carefully, in case he might get pulled up—by a Traffic Cop!



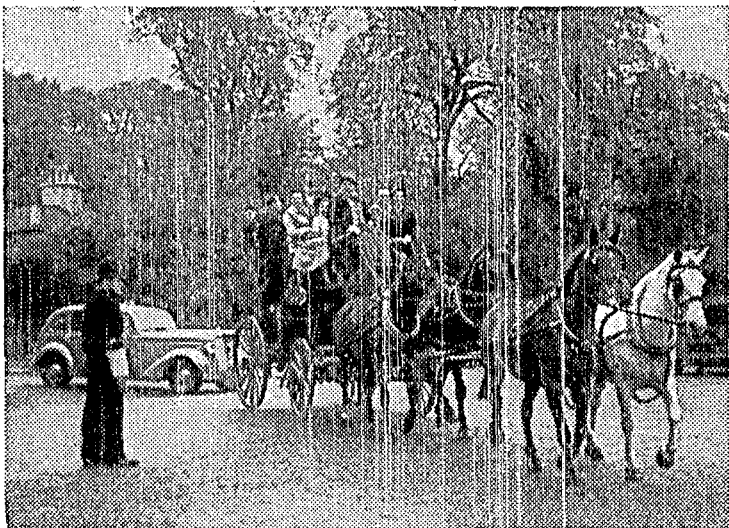
All motor cycle patrols have to go through a rigorous three weeks' course at the Hendon Driving School



A Group—two motor cycles and a car—at a pedestrian crossing on a one-way street at Victoria Station, London



At the scene of a breakdown one of the patrols has dismounted to lend a hand



Four in Hand

Stage-coaches 150 years old, are earning dollars for Britain. They are being used to show visitors from overseas the sights of London. Here we see a coach leaving Hyde Park.

Girl Who Would Not Grow Up

MARIA EDGEWORTH, who died on May 22 just a century ago, was one of the outstanding women of her time.

She was born in Oxfordshire, but her family was of Irish origin, and when the ancestral estates of Edgeworthstown, County Longford, eventually came to her father, the family retired there with him. Maria afterwards sharing her time between Ireland and England. Her father married four times, and she, a daughter of the first marriage, was one of 19 children.

Maria was a tiny girl so, with the approval of her clever but eccentric father, various attempts were made to induce her to grow, including hanging her by the neck and gravely swinging her. But not an inch did they add to her stature; she grew up a small but lovable, witty, and learned woman.

Her natural gift for writing was encouraged by her father, who shared some of her early literary productions; but she did better when her pen was free from his guidance, and in *Castle Rackrent*, a novel of Irish life, with its humours and

pathos—a book entirely her own—she won the first of a long line of successes. Not all her books were Irish; one on education gained her European fame, and following her novels there came a series of stories for children, among the best ever written, and in this Maria had hosts of admirers.

The greatest compliment paid her was that of Sir Walter Scott, who more than once published the statement that it was the Irish stories written by her that suggested to him the idea of attempting a similar thing for Scotland. It was she alone who inspired him, by example, to the production of his *Waverley Novels*. She went to Scotland to visit him; he went to Ireland to visit her, and they corresponded until his death.

Talent and remarkable industry brought Maria Edgeworth a handsome income, and she lived in peace and harmony for half a century with the third of her stepmothers, dying in the arms of that admirable woman at the age of 82.

DIALECTS OF THE JUNGLE

WITH summer at hand many of us hope for the making of more records in the wilds. Students of the subject believe that with more practice they will greatly extend their knowledge of the voices and sounds of the animal world. American zoologists, for example, are confident that certain species of their earthworms utter sounds and calls as they stir in the soil.

An authority who has marched right across Africa through dense forest, listening intently all the way to the sounds made by living creatures, has reached the conclusion that the "language" of each species of bird, mammal, or other dweller in those awe-inspiring regions differs from place to place, as does the speech of human beings scattered over the same wide area.

When he captured a creature whose sounds differed from those of its kinds and species he had captured elsewhere, the naturalist generally found, he says, that although the species was the same there were slight but distinct differences between them.

The expert might expect to detect with ease the difference between the blast of an Indian elephant and that of an African species, between the differing cries of Old World and New World monkeys, or between Asian and African lions, and even between birds of the same species that make their homes in different countries. Certain birds of the same species differ in song because of the homes in which they are cradled. The nightingales of southern France and northern Italy, for example, lack the beautiful soft and blending scale that graces the song of our British nightingales.

There must be many such examples waiting now for the attentive human ear. Perhaps we shall one day discover that throughout the world there are not only multitudes of human dialects but also multitudes of animal dialects.

How many people have noticed, for instance, the "Chir-r-r-r-up" of the Glasgow sparrow compared with the "Chirrup" of its Cockney cousin?

ATHLETES AT THE WHITE CITY

ATHLETES from all the Universities of Great Britain and Northern Ireland will be out for records at the famous White City Stadium this weekend. This is the annual Universities Athletic Union meeting, which was begun in 1919. Teams from only seven Varsities competed then; this year the number of competitors from 17 Universities may pass the 300 mark.

It is expected that all the well-known Blues from Oxford and Cambridge will be competing, prior to their visit to the States next month, while from the other Universities will come such famous athletes as Arthur Wint (London), the Jamaican runner; Prince Adedoyin (Belfast), holder of the Universities high and long jump titles; and A. H. Chivers (Bristol), English international long-distance athlete.

The athletes from Loughborough may go farthest to extend the Blues from Oxford and Cambridge, for the team from the Midland "seat of athletic learning" may include Ken Jones and John Archer, Olympic sprinters; Duncan White, who hurdled in the Olympics for Ceylon; and Douglas Harris, the tall New Zealand runner who had the misfortune to be injured during the Olympic "heats."

British Life-Saving Methods

DELEGATES from overseas countries have been learning about British methods of protecting and saving life at sea. They are attending the British Council's Safety at Sea course which has been going on in Southampton and London and ends on May 20. The course is a sequel to the International Conference on Safety of Life at Sea held in London last year.

The delegates have visited Trinity House and Lloyd's. The course also includes a visit to the Queen Mary; demonstration of radar equipment, and of pilotage aboard the Trinity House pilot vessel, *Penda*; inspection of a salvage vessel, a lifeboat, and a lifeboat building yard; and a display by coastguards at Freshwater of life-saving apparatus and methods.

Flying Star



Petula Clark, the young stage and film actress, found a plane the quickest means of getting from Denham, where she is making a film, to Brighton, where she was appearing in a play in the evening.

The Editor's Table

NEW CHAPTER

MOST people in this country have been gladdened by the news that India is to remain in the Commonwealth of Nations. Dark forebodings of disruption have been dispersed by the wisdom of statesmen sitting in friendly co-operation round a table in London.

In the long story of an ancient people a fresh chapter has begun. India's decision is a re-affirmation of friendship with the people of this land, a recognition of the ties between free peoples united for peace, justice, and freedom.

INDIA now takes her rightful place among the great nations, with all the promise of greater stature to come. Those who have watched India's development have known that to be true for a long time. Now she marches on, not in isolation but in fellowship; she has linked arms with comrades in the Commonwealth.

What has happened in the councils of the Commonwealth is a signal object lesson to the rest of mankind. Out of old bitterness has come new friendship; out of suspicion has been born new mutual regard. The nations of the Commonwealth are bound together by golden bands of understanding and active association which cannot easily be broken.

IN the fast-changing East, where the challenge of new faiths is springing up, a new hope is born. India stands free, independent and yet in association with a group of freedom-loving nations. In the difficult times ahead, other Eastern peoples will gain strength from this fact.

As Welcome As Ever

IRISHMEN in Britain, it seems, will have the same privileges as British citizens, if the Ireland Bill is passed by our Parliament. They will not be treated as "foreigners," in spite of the fact that the Republic of Ireland has left the British Commonwealth.

The Bill recognises that Eire became the Republic of Ireland on April 18, 1949, but it also lays down that Northern Ireland remains part of the United Kingdom, and that this status cannot be altered without the consent of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

In our schools Pat is always popular and there are thousands of Irish people living and doing useful work in Britain. It would be unthinkable that we should grow cold towards our excellent Irish friends and neighbours because their homeland has decided upon complete independence.

WISE CHOICE

TRUE happiness consists not in the multitude of friends, but in the worth and choice.

Ben Jonson

Hopeful Signs

BERLIN is no longer a besieged city, the Russian blockade having been lifted, as well as the counter blockade of eastern Germany by the British, Americans, and French. It is no longer necessary for the Western Powers to carry food and supplies to the people of Berlin by air, as supplies can now go in by rail, road, and canal.

Shortly there is to be a meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of Russia, the United States, Britain, and France to discuss the difficult problems of what is to be the future of Germany as a whole.

Throughout the world peace-seekers are taking heart at these hopeful signs. Blockade and counter-blockade, though not actual war, are dangerously near it, and it is good to think that this "cold war" may soon be brought to an end at the conference table.

What Will They Read?

"ABOUT 1000 million people will learn to read for the first time during the present century, and largely on what they are given to read depends the future of mankind," recently said Mr Hugh Lawson Johnston, Vice-Chairman of the United Society for Christian Literature which has been celebrating its 150th anniversary.

Mr Johnston went on that supplies of necessary Christian literature were tragically and dangerously inadequate to satisfy a new world hunger. "The Christian way of life can either be preserved and extended, or submerged and lost."

The Society has launched a third-jubilee appeal for £150,000. Its headquarters are at 4 Bouverie Street, London, EC4.

JUST AN IDEA

As the old-time saying has it,
Seek home for rest,
For home is best.

Under the E

PETER PUCK
WANTS TO KNOW
If bricklayers find
brickwork hard



A MAN says you ought to be able to get a hat for half a crown. But you want more than half a crown for a hat.

A COUPLE of schoolboys want to make a wooden shed. They will have to put their heads together.

THOUSANDS of people in Coventry want to change their coal merchant. Perhaps he was getting slack.

MUSIC, like food, should be enjoyed, says a writer. We haven't come across any music like food.

A FOR

THINGS SAID

THE Crown stands not for despotic rule, not for oppression, but for the humane of the British Empire, the personal sovereign and friend of all who are fortunate enough to belong to that world-wide imperial family.

Prime Minister of Northern Ireland

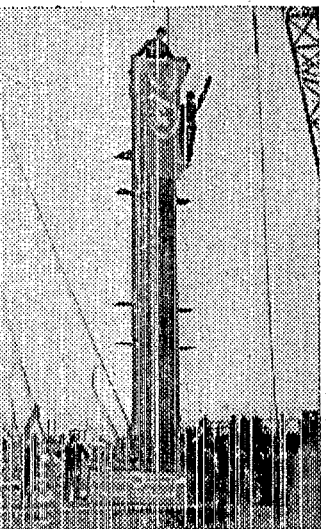
WOULD like every one in the country to go about with pride in our achievement—much to complain about the sordid and drab atmosphere in which some respects we still live.

Lord Rennell

DEMOCRACY cannot survive on the catch-as-catch-can basis where every one is out after his own interests and his own advancement.

Sir Stafford Cripps

First Column



workmen unfurl the United Nations flag on the first steel column of the UN permanent headquarters, which is being built in New York. The building will be ready for occupation in the autumn of 1950.

CHILDREN

LOVE these little people; and it is not a slight thing when they, who are so fresh from the world, love us. Charles Dickens

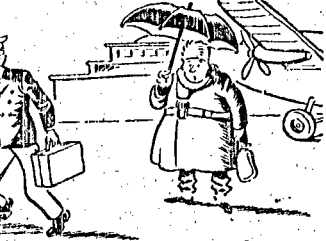
Author's Table

SINGER says that some songs do not do justice to her voice. Perhaps it needs mercy.

WHAT is the key to good cooking? Everything should be done to turn.

OTTON dance frocks may be popular. We shall have a cotton reel.

OME people can always make a party go with a swing. Wonder where they put the swing.



GENER says the British climate has caught him. Caught him out.

GOOD WILL DAY, 1949

FOR the 28th successive year the Welsh Children's Message of Good Will is to be broadcast to many nations on May 18. This day is the anniversary of the opening, 50 years ago, of the first Hague Peace Conference which, though it did not organise Peace, was the first official landmark on the march of the nations towards a world without war.

In Britain the message will be heard as part of a Good Will Day programme on the Welsh Home Service, beginning at 5 p.m. The first 15 minutes of this programme will also be broadcast by the Home Service. An address by the Revd Gwilym Davies, the Founder of the Message, and recordings of exchange greetings from overseas countries, will complete the Welsh broadcast.

The Message this year is:

THIS is Wales calling! The boys and girls of Wales are calling the boys and girls of all the world!

We rejoice to think that, above the tumult, on this day of the year we can greet each other as members of one great family, the family of the nations of the future.

The world is full of suffering, cruelty, and strife, and we are told that civilisation may perish. Let us tell the world that civilisation shall not perish.

More than ever the world needs what we alone can give—the confidence and the comradeship of youth.

May we then, on this Good Will Day, dedicate ourselves afresh to the service of our fellows in ever-widening circles, to the service of our home, of our neighbourhood, of our country so that our country may better serve the world to which we all belong?

So shall we, millions of us, grow up to be the friends of all and the enemies of none.

THE QUALITIES OF A LEADER

WHEN Lord Trent was installed recently as the Chancellor of the new University of Nottingham—which was formerly a University College—he admirably summed up the purpose of education.

"It is not the function of a university to provide industry with technicians, but to be a seat of learning where the habit of exact thinking is inculcated," he said. "The most important factor in industry today is the human. The higher a man rises in industry, the less the technical qualifications count and the more valuable are the human qualities of character, courage, and vision."

In Conference

LET our alliance be combined. Our best friends made, and our best means stretched out; And let us presently go sit in Council, How covert matters may be best disclosed.

And open perils surest answered. Shakespeare

VACCINATION MAN

WE all owe a great debt to Edward Jenner, the discoverer of vaccination, who was born in a Gloucestershire vicarage just 200 years ago—on May 17, 1749. He it was who silenced that dreadful age-old lament "A mother's child is not her own until it has had smallpox"; and it is a fact that in former times this terrible disease was the cause of nine per cent of the total deaths in this country.

Before the time of Edward Jenner, son of the vicar of Berkeley, the Turks and certain peoples of India believed that they could prevent smallpox by introducing it artificially in advance into their systems; and they used to inoculate themselves with virus taken direct from a person suffering from the complaint.

The method was introduced into England, but it proved liable to bring on violent and fatal attacks of smallpox and to start epidemics. The age called for a man of courage and genius, and that man was at last forthcoming in the person of Jenner, who after service with a local doctor spent two years as assistant to that king of surgeon-scientists, John Hunter.

Smallpox went on killing or marring unchecked until there occurred to Jenner, like a blinding flash of revelation, a vision of prevention and cure. He noted that the Berkeley dairy cattle frequently suffered from cow-pox, and was led to the memorable discovery that the agent that causes cow-pox causes smallpox also.

Constantly observing and recording, he found that dairy-maids whose hands were chapped, cut, or scratched caught cow-pox



Dr Jenner

from infected animals, but that afterwards they either did not catch smallpox or else took it so mildly that the attack was a mere triviality. He proved his theory by vaccinating with lymph from a cow and six weeks later, finding that it was impossible to induce smallpox in the person vaccinated.

Whereas virus from a smallpox patient was highly dangerous, lymph from an affected cow or calf was so weakened as to be harmless, yet effective in creating a mild dose of the malady that kept the vaccinated person immune from smallpox proper, or at worst, from a severe attack.

Jenner's discovery was not accepted without professional opposition, but the British Government awarded him £30,000; nation after nation in Europe and beyond clamoured for vaccination, and the city of Calcutta, which smallpox had often scourged, sent him a thank-offering of £6,000.

Edward Jenner died at his birthplace in 1823, widely honoured by peoples who, great as they felt their debt to be already, dreamed as little as he that his fruitful labours were to pave the way for Pasteur, Lister, and more recent conquerors of disease by inoculation.

London's New Landmark

IN the next two years a fine new building is to arise on the south bank of the Thames in London. It is the LCC's new Concert Hall—the only permanent building to be erected for the 1951 Festival.

Estimated to cost nearly £2,000,000, it will be a splendid landmark on the south bank which, in past years, has presented a drab, untidy contrast to the Victoria Embankment and its dignified buildings on the north bank.

The main part of the new building, its massive auditorium, will be crowned by a curved roof covered in copper. A special

feature of the auditorium is to be its two separate "skins" of concrete which will keep out the noise of trains on Hungerford Bridge close by.

Between Concert Hall and river will be pleasing terraces and gardens, and there will be promenades with splendid views across the river.

The Hall itself will hold 3000 people, and there will be a small hall, holding 750 for lectures, film shows, chamber music, and stage performances. The building will also contain rooms for meetings, an exhibition gallery, and restaurants opening on the riverside terrace.



THIS ENGLAND

Avon Tyrrell, Hampshire, now a holiday centre. See next column

Breaking Records Backwards

SWIMMING coaches are now making a determined effort to "produce" swimmers who will worthily uphold the prestige of Britain in the British Empire Games to be held in New Zealand next February and in the 1952 Olympiad at Helsinki.

One of our best swimmers is 20-year-old John Brockway, of South Wales, who specialises in backstroke events. He came to the fore about three years ago and has developed swiftly, although he was only seventh in the Olympic backstroke sprint. But since the Olympiad he has broken a number of records and has achieved the distinction of becoming the first British swimmer to do the 100 yards backstroke in 60 seconds.

Later this month Brockway is attacking the British 150-yard record, and in mid-June hopes to gain further honours when he meets the crack Continental swimmers in Paris. This hefty young Welshman wins his races backwards, but it can truly be said that he is making progress in the right direction.

Mapping It Out



Two members of the Women's Junior Air Corps study a map of the area near Elstree Airfield, Hertfordshire, where they are having flying lessons in the corps' own aircraft.

WEED IN SHEEP'S CLOTHING

HUMIDITY is so great this year in parts of the Australian wool country that burrs and clover seeds are beginning to sprout in the wool of sheep in the Murrumbidgee irrigation area in the centre of New South Wales.

Farmers say they have never known it happen before, and have never seen such weird-looking sheep.

Holiday Home in the New Forest

MANY young people will enjoy holidays at Avon Tyrrell House in the New Forest through the generosity of the South African people and of Lord Manners.

South Africa has given £95,000 for youth holiday centres to the National Association of Girls' Clubs and Mixed Clubs, and Lord Manners gave this magnificent house set in beautiful scenery.

Some £20,000 of the South African gift has been spent on repairing and decorating the house, designed in 1891, which has 50 rooms and stands in 19 acres of ground. It is to be an international holiday house and training centre for youth.

Lancashire League Cricket

LANCASHIRE League cricket, consisting of Saturday afternoon and evening games only, remains as popular as ever with the people, and a great number of international players have been engaged for this season.

Everton Weekes, the West Indies batsman who completed the recent tour of India with an average of 90 runs per innings, is with Bacup, and another West Indies record-breaker, Fred Worrell, is assisting Radcliffe. Those two wonderful Indian all-rounders, Vinoo Mankad and V. S. Hazare, both of whom made a great impression against England in the 1946 series of Tests, are playing respectively for Castleton Moor and Rawtenstall. There has also been a minor invasion of Lancashire League cricket by well-known Australians.

With the addition of such men as Charlie Barnett, the former England and Gloucestershire all-rounder (Rochdale), George Pope, ex-England and Derbyshire (Heywood), and several other well-known former County players, the standard of cricket in the Lancashire leagues this season should well maintain its brilliance.

GROUNDNUTS ON THE MOVE

NIGERIAN railwaymen had a welcome surprise recently when five new British locomotives and ten new Canadian ones were unloaded at Port Harcourt. Within a few hours of disembarkation they had steam up and were bound for Northern Rhodesia to help to clear the accumulated stocks of groundnuts.

During the past two months over a hundred new 20-ton wagons have been supplied to Nigeria. These have to be assembled on arrival, but already 30,000 tons of groundnuts are being handled each month, compared with 16,000 tons a year ago.

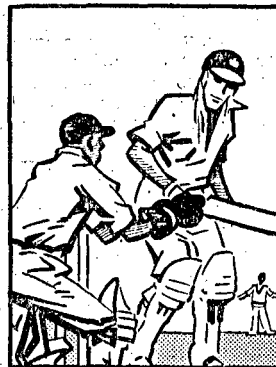
Steps to Sporting Fame



It is 23 years since Leslie Ames first took the field for Kent, but he is still one of the Hop County's most dependable batsmen.



Leslie became a wicket-keeper when at school at Folkestone. The regular player was injured and Ames replaced him. He was England's wicket-keeper from 1929 until 1939.



He went on three Australian tours, visited the West Indies and South Africa, and played in many Tests at home. In 1929 he set up a record by catching 79 batsmen and stumping 48.

Leslie Ames



In 1931 Ames scored 137 against New Zealand at Lord's, the first Test century made in England by an English wicket-keeper. In all, he has hit more than 33,000 runs in first-class cricket.

Beware of Adders

A PLAGUE of hundreds of adders is reported from Hamsterley Forest, the 6000-acre afforestation area in south-west Durham. A family occupying a mansion in the middle of the forest has offered forestry workers 2s 6d for every adder brought in dead.

The adder, or viper, is the only poisonous British snake. It is found in every British county in varying numbers, its average size being from 20 to 25 inches, though a smaller variety, the small red viper, is only 10 to 12 inches long.

An adder is easily recognised by its flat head, upon which are two dark bands converging in the form of a V. Along its back is a dark zigzag line.

Though the adder's bite is rarely fatal, its effects can be serious. Medical assistance should be obtained at once, and walking or exertion should be avoided.

The two other varieties of snake in Britain are harmless. The grass snake can be recognised by its yellow collar and its surprising length—sometimes nearly five feet. The smooth snake, rarely seen, is grey with black speckled back.

TEACHING CENTENARY

It is 100 years since the Royal Charter of Incorporation was granted to the College of Preceptors, "the earliest collective expression of English teachers for educational reform and professional self-government."

A start had been made three years earlier, in 1846, in Brighton, to establish a "legally authorised... college consisting of persons engaged in tuition." It demanded that members of the scholastic profession should be qualified both in knowledge and the art of conveying it to others.

It is noteworthy that the first Chair of Education founded in Great Britain was established by this college in 1873.

LONDON PRIDE—AN EAST END PAGEANT OF LIFE

WHAT a rich story the East End of London has to tell, from Roman times to our own! Fascinating glimpses of its life down the centuries are to be had at the Exhibition called East End Story, which is on view at the Whitechapel Art Gallery every day, except Monday, until June 18.

Here are pictures, old prints, maps, and other exhibits which illustrate vividly the way of life of East Enders.

They used to be country folk, and an Elizabethan map of London shows the East End as a country suburb, with the fine houses of wealthy Londoners. A print of 1789 advertises a cricket match to take place at Hackney in a field opposite an inn oddly named The Shoulder of Mutton and Cat.

Industry, however, grew steadily from early times, for the East Enders were ever hard-working folk. There are beautiful designs for silk weaving from Spitalfields. Weavers' pattern books. Many of the weavers were Huguenots who came to England to escape persecution after 1685.

The East End was a refuge for other persecuted foreigners, and

a photograph of a Jewish petition of 1656 is one of the first documents concerned with the readmission of Jews to England after their expulsion in the 13th century. The petition resulted in the opening, a year later, of a Spanish and Portuguese synagogue and a Jewish burial ground.

The Jews became completely Anglicised to the extent of producing several famous boxers at a time when boxing was an exclusively English sport. An old print shows the famous bare-knuckle prize-fighter Mendoza. He has long hair and wears a sad benevolent expression as he holds his opponent in an iron grip.

BRONZE GIANT

THE Russian Memorial to the 7000 men of the Red Army who fell in or around Berlin in 1945 has just been completed. A gigantic 25-ton bronze figure of a soldier, sword in right hand, and a child in the left, looks out westward over a vast memorial garden. The statue is 35 feet high and stands on a plinth 25 feet high.

First Instalment of Round The World in 80 Days, by Jules Verne, Told in Pictures

Mr Phileas Fogg was a rich, eccentric Englishman living in London in 1872. He was extremely methodical in his habits, doing the same things at the same times every day. One evening at his club a discussion arose about how long it would take an ordinary passenger to travel round the

world, now that the railway across India had been completed. Mr Fogg maintained that it could be done in 80 days, travelling by way of Italy, Suez, India, Hong Kong, Japan, and then across the Pacific Ocean to San Francisco, from there to New York, and thence back to London.

His friends thought this impossible. The slightest delay anywhere, they argued, would upset the timetable. Then, to their amazement, Mr Fogg quietly wagered them £20,000 that he would do it, starting that evening. He was perfectly confident, so they accepted his wager.



Mr Fogg had that day engaged a new servant, Jean Passe-Partout, a Frenchman. Jean had led an adventurous life but, anxious to settle down, had taken this situation because, he had heard, Mr Fogg was very quiet and regular in his ways. Jean was dumbfounded when his master came in that evening and told him to pack a carpet bag. "We are going round the world in 80 days," said Mr Fogg calmly.



Mr Fogg put £20,000 in banknotes into the bag for the journey's expenses, then he and his bewildered servant went to Charing Cross Station where his astonished friends were waiting to see him off. "You won't forget when you have to come back," said one of them. "In 80 days," quietly replied Mr Fogg. "On Saturday the 21st of December, 1872, at 45 minutes past 8 in the evening. Au revoir, gentlemen!"



The papers were full of Mr Fogg's "mad" venture. They said it could only succeed if he caught trains and steamers at each stopping place. Storms at sea, delays, accidents, would beat him.



In the train excitable Jean suddenly remembered he had forgotten to turn off the gas in his room when they left. "Then it must burn while we are away—at your expense," said Fogg.



Reaching Brindisi on time, Mr Fogg and Jean embarked on the steamer Mongolia for Suez. But at Suez an English detective, Mr Fix, was eagerly awaiting the Mongolia. The Bank of England had been robbed of £55,000, and a description of the thief who, it was believed, had left the country, had been telegraphed to Fix. He had a feeling that he was going to find the robber in the Mongolia.

Will Fix Upset Mr Fogg's Timetable? See Next Week's Instalment of This Splendid Story

BRIDE IN THE BASKET

BEAUTIFUL Castle Ashby House, Northamptonshire, the ancestral home of the Marquess of Northampton, is now open to the public every Thursday and Saturday.

This is the home to which an Earl of Northampton brought a bride whom he had smuggled out of her father's house in a baker's basket.

The bride was Elizabeth, the beautiful only daughter of the fabulously rich Lord Mayor of London, Sir John Spencer. The gay and gallant Northampton came to woo her, but Sir John would not hear of it.

One day Sir John happened to pass a stalwart youth on the stairs carrying a bread basket and little did he dream that in the basket was his only daughter, and that the baker's boy was young Northampton. They were married against his will, but the time came when the angry Sir John was sent for by Queen Elizabeth, who asked him to adopt a child in place of his disinherited daughter. Sir John could not refuse, and as the baby proved to be his grandson all was well.

Tibbs Has a High Old Time

A KITTEN which had been marooned on the top of a 30-foot telegraph pole for twelve hours was finally rescued by Bootle Fire Brigade's £5000 turntable escape. This great machine, carrying a crew of three, had to be driven up a narrow back entry to reach the pole. The ladder was then raised and a fireman wearing gloves ascended.

The diminutive kitten, Tibbs by name, was probably scared by the appearance of the monstrous red machine. He clung to the post with all his claw power as the fireman tried to lift him off, but a few minutes later had been rescued and was breaking a 12-hour fast with a saucer of milk.

Tibbs had retreated to the top of the pole after a skirmish with several other cats. His owner saw him there at seven a.m. and rang the telephone exchange, the exchange informed the police, and the police called out the fire brigade.

The New Thought in the Old Dress

THE organisers of this year's Chelsea Week in London (May 25 to June 1), have taken as their working motto the saying of Charles II that, "England needs to dress new thought in the old good humour and the old good manners."

The chief event in Chelsea's Week will be the Flower Show. The spirit of old times will be recaptured in a period Fair based on the Cremorne Gardens, the pleasure gardens in Chelsea that were popular as a place of amusement from 1845 to 1877.

Visitors will turn from this to something new in an exhibition of contemporary art by Chelsea artists, and then to the past again in a Turner exhibition at Whistler's house.

Among other events are to be a display of old musical instruments, concerts, river races on the Thames at Chelsea Reach, and a youth display.

Meat From Australia

MORE Australian meat on Britain's plates will follow as a result of an agreement just made between the British Government and Australia.

In return for a British guarantee to buy the meat, Australia is to put into operation large-scale plans for increasing meat production. This will involve more road-making, especially in Northern Australia, improvements in stock routes, schemes for water conservation, and the like. At present we import about 150,000 tons of meat a year from Australia, and the aim is to increase that figure to 250,000 tons within ten years.

Most of the Australian cattle ranches are inland, where the grass is thin and short for the most part and the cattle have to range over a wide area to obtain enough food. In Queensland several cattle stations are larger than the average English county, and it has been calculated that a single ring fence enclosing one of these may be as long as the road from London to Bristol.

One great difficulty facing Australian cattle farmers is the water supply. Rain is by no means plentiful and surface streams flow only for short

periods following heavy downpours. To obtain water most ranchers sink a series of artesian wells. Far down below the surface in many areas is a layer of sandstone which is saturated with water. When a borehole is sunk down to this layer the water rises up the bore, sometimes gushing out at the surface like a fountain.

Cattle fed only on the sparse pasture of the ranches would be too lean and tough, so when they are two or three years old they are "droved" down to the richer pastures on the coast for fattening. The general muster, as it is called, is the busiest time on the Australian ranch. Mounted on horseback, the ranch hands collect the cattle for counting, branding, and grading according to age and quality.

Those selected for the market are then put in charge of drovers and begin their long trek along the stock route, which may last weeks or even months. The old risk of thousands of cattle dying of thirst while on the way has been largely overcome by the sinking of artesian bores along the stock routes. And now the railways are reaching into the interior of Australia, so the journey may take only a few days.

LAST WEEK of the CN 100-Prize Competition

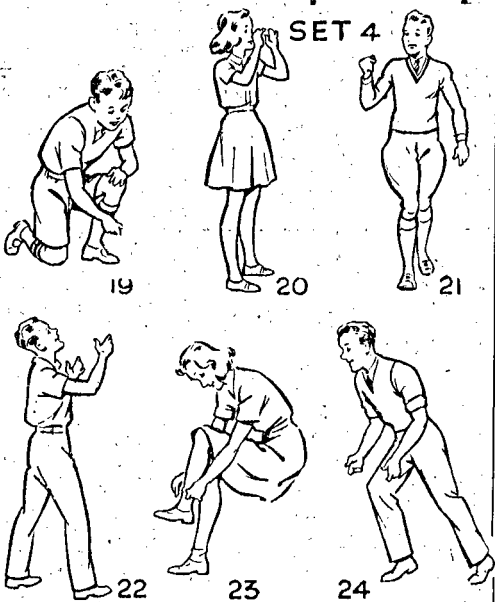
The Prizes ● 50 Splendid Wrist or Pocket Watches
● 50 Choose-For-Yourself Awards

This is the last week of Children's Newspaper's 100-Prize Puzzle and here is Set 4 of our interesting action-pictures. If you are taking part in this competition you will already have noted your answers for the first eighteen pictures in the series. Now can you say what are the well-known actions illustrated in this week, and so complete your answers for the whole twenty-four action-pictures? To help you, here is a list of actions which includes all the correct answers for Set 4:

Pulling on a sock. Leading a horse. Pushing a wheelbarrow. Using a sickle. Skating. Whipping a top. Tying up a shoe. Using a lawnmower. Juggling. Using binoculars. Tossing a coin. Taking a photograph. Pushing a roller.

The prizes will be awarded for the entries which are correct or most nearly so; to decide ties at any point, handwriting or printing in relation to age will also be taken into account.

What Are They Doing? How to Send In



Simply make a list of the numbers from one to twenty-four on a single sheet of paper and write your answers (or as many as you have been able to find) beside the numbers. Then affix to it the completed coupon printed here. Don't forget that this coupon must be signed by a parent or guardian certifying that the entry is your own unaided work. Do not send in the pictures themselves. The competition is open to all under 17 and will be judged in two classes—under 11s and 11s and over. The closing date is TUESDAY, May 31. No allowance can be made for entries received after this date, whether lost, delayed in the post or otherwise, or for mutilated entries. No correspondence.

Post your entry to: "Actions," Children's Newspaper, Room 171, The Fleetway House, London, E.C.4 (Comp). There is no entry fee, but each attempt must have a coupon, as here, pinned or pasted on it. Each reader may send one attempt only. The Editor's decision will be final and legally binding throughout. Children of C.N. employees must not compete. (We regret that the competition must be limited to readers living in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands.)

Children's Newspaper "Actions" Contest
The attached entry is all my own work.

Name..... Age.....
Address.....
Signature of Parent/Guardian.....

Closing Date May 31

SAMMY SHUTEYE AND THE LUCKY BITE

PA SAID GET THOSE POSTS PAINTED BEFORE THE TIDE'S IN.

THE AIR'S RELAXING—I'D BETTER HAVE A NAP.

WHO SAID A BITE OF MARS? WHERE'S THAT PAINT BRUSH? I'D STIPPLE A STATUE FOR A MARS.

WE HAVEN'T HAD A BITE FOR HOURS.

SMART WORK, SAMMY, BOY! I'M PROMOTING YOU TO THE ROUNDABOUTS.

ALL FOUR HUNDRED DONE, SIR, AND DOUBLE COATINGS AT THAT.

LEAVE THE FISH IN THE OCEAN LADS! MARS IS THE LUCKIEST BITE OF ALL.

MUNCHING MACKEREL! AREN'T MARS MARVELOUS?

MARS HAS EVERYTHING!

- Thick coating of milky chocolate
- Layer of buttery flavoured caramel
- Delicious chocolate-cream centre

MARS LTD. SLOUGH, BUCKS.

NEWEST GYRO MIRACLE

NOW FOR THE HOME TRADE

FASCINATING NEW TOY FOR YOUNG AND OLD

This fascinating Toy has a Track 2 ft. in Diameter, yet it can be carried in the pocket. It provides hours of fun for the whole family.

COOK BROS.
44 LYTHAM ROAD, BLACKPOOL, LANCs.

4/- including postage.

RHODESIAN FREE

We will send you **ABSOLUTELY FREE** this lovely green and black stamp which shows our Royal Princesses (**Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret Rose**). This beautiful stamp was only issued in April 1947, to commemorate the Royal Visit to Southern Rhodesia.



This attractive stamp and historical souvenir was on issue for a very short time only and is now scarce. We managed to obtain a small supply, and now have pleasure in offering one to you **ABSOLUTELY FREE** for you to add to and improve your own collection. Just send us 3d. in stamps to cover our posts.

WINDSOR STAMP Co.
(Dept. CN), UCKFIELD, SUSSEX

CHINA POST OFFICE Centenary Set FREE!



The Scarce, 1947 Complete Mint Set of 5 Large, **CHINESE COMMEMORATIVES** will be sent **ABSOLUTELY FREE** to every stamp collector who asks to see a selection of our World-Famous Approvals. Total face value of this **FREE SET** is 1,500.00 dollars, and the designs depict various methods of mail transportation; postmen, vans, schooners, mail planes, liners, trains, maps, etc. (Enclose 24d.)

OBTAIN YOUR FREE SET NOW!!!
D. J. HANSON (Dept. CN.33)
Eastrington, Goole, Yorks.

Here It Is!

The free gift you have been waiting for! A pair of **STAMP COLLECTOR'S TWEEZERS** will be sent absolutely free to all sending for my famous Approvals and enclosing 3d. stamp for postage. Watch my advertisements for Unusual Free Gifts!

A. ROBERTS,
18 Thistledeane, East Molesey, Surrey.
CATALOGUED £10,000

Two of the rarest stamps in the world are the celebrated "Post Office" Mauritius. Only 26 copies are known, catalogued unused at £5,000 each. Mauritius has recently issued a set on their hundredth anniversary on which these famous stamps are actually shown. I will send a fine unused pair of these free to all applicants for Approvals enclosing 24d. postage.

R. D. HARRISON, ROYDON, WARE
BRITISH COLONIALS

We offer to applicants a very fine selection on Approval, attractive terms, please send 24d. stamp without delay to

P. & L. PHILATELISTS
10 Tynemouth Road, Mitcham, Surrey.
Club secretaries catered for.

FRENCH COLONIAL BARGAINS

This week we offer the following special bargain packets of stamps:

- 20 diff. Algeria for 2/-.
- 10 diff. French Cameroons for 1/-.
- 10 diff. Fr. Equatorial Africa for 9d.
- 10 diff. French Somali Coast for 9d.
- 10 diff. French West Africa for 9d.
- 10 diff. Madagascar for 9d.
- 10 diff. Martinique for 1/-.
- 5 diff. New Caledonia for 6d.
- 10 diff. Reunion for 1/-.
- 10 diff. St. Pierre & Miquelon for 1/-.
- 10 diff. Togo for 1/-.

or the eleven packets containing these very attractive modern stamps for only 10/-.

When ordering, please ask also for a selection of our World Famous Approval Sheets.

ERRINGTON & MARTIN (Dept. 519)
South Hackney, London, E.9, England.
Established 1880



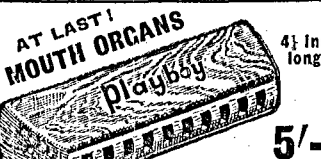
SHILLING PACKETS

- 100 BARGAIN MIXTURE - 1/-
- 25 diff. BALKANS - 1/-
- 10 diff. FORMOSA - 1/-
- 50 diff. ITALY - 1/-
- 25 diff. JAPAN - 1/-
- 25 diff. SWITZERLAND - 1/-
- 25 diff. TURKEY - 1/-
- 12 diff. UKRAINE - 1/-
- 25 diff. U.S.A. - 1/-
- 20 LARGE PICTORIALS - 1/-

Or 3 for 2/6; 6 for 5/-; the complete 10 packets (317 stamps) for 8/-

A free packet of 10 Greece sent to all keen collectors requesting our noted new style Approvals and enclosing 3d. to cover postage.

E. M. KIRKNESS & Co.,
Weston Chambers, Weston Road,
SOUTHEND, Essex



Range 2 octaves, tested. Made in almost unbreakable plastic, very attractive colours. **MORE THAN A TOY—this is a musical instrument.**

CLOCKWORK TRAIN SETS

VALUE FOR MONEY 8/11 Plus 1/1 for post & packing

Comprising Engine with powerful mechanism. Tender, Carriage and circular rail set—gauge 1 1/2 in.

CHERUB TOYS LTD. (Dept. 132),
35 Hillside, London, N.W.10.

BOY'S CRICKET SET

FOR 8/11 Packing and postage included
Complete with Bat and Rubber Grip, 3 Stumps, Balls and Soft Rubber Ball. Suitable for ages 7-12.
Ideal for the Garden or Beach. Start your boy (or girl) off in the right way learning this typically English game. Send P.O. or cheque for 8/11 now and please remember orders must be taken in rotation.

Buy from Specialists. We are suppliers to L.C.C. & other School Authorities
RIDDALLS SPORTS AND GAMES
(Dept. C.N.8), 49 Cumberwell Church St., London, S.E.5, and branches.

CANADA, ALL DIFFERENT!

This month's Stamp Bargain, consisting of 25 different Canadians, PLUS Canada's newest Commemorative—the 40. Union with Newfoundland stamp—will be sent to all Approvals applicants for only 9d. post free! Do not miss this grand opportunity—write now! Sending 9d. P.O. together with request for Approvals (Spacefillers also available to pick from at 4d. 1d.).

LINDSEY STAMPS (C.N.),
42, Crosby Ave., Scartho, Grimsby.



GRAND STAMP COLLECTORS COMPETITION

Write to-day for Entry Form and ask for our Approvals, enclosing 3d. stamp.

FRANCIS CURTIS Ltd. (Dept. C.N.),
226 BAKER STREET, LONDON, N.W.1

WAR ON FLIES Glasgow's Big Attack

LED by Dr William Gunn of Glasgow, a platoon of experts is declaring war on one of mankind's greatest enemies—Musca domestica, or the common house-fly.

Preliminary sorties have been carried out in order to find out where flies go in the winter. As their headquarters they select any warm place in the house but are partial to hibernation behind torn wallpaper and pictures. Becoming airborne with the first blink of May sunshine they get busy contaminating food and spreading disease by carrying the filth they gather from dustbins into our homes.

To meet this onslaught the platoon will begin by installing 2500 white dustbins throughout Glasgow, each treated with a mixture which will reduce the fly populace. Every single fly killed in May may rid the world of 5,598,720,000,000 of the pests, for a female fly lays 150 eggs a day and in six months the generations from that one hatch amounts to the astronomical figure quoted.

MOLE PLOUGH

A new machine for laying piping in the ground is aptly called the mole plough. It drives through the ground, drawing the piping and laying it as it goes, with the minimum of disturbance to the surface.

The first extensive test was very successfully made recently on the Bristol showground to be used this year for the Bath and West Show. The piping was laid at a depth of eighteen inches in a stony subsoil, and even an encounter with the foundations of an old building caused no serious delay.

BEDTIME CORNER

Cuckoo!

IN a tree by a common where the gorse bushes grew Mrs Cuckoo sat thinking. "Now, where shall I find some nurses to bring up my babies this year?" she wondered.

So she stared hard at the common where the May winds ruffled last year's dead bracken, and soon she had spied out several pairs of Meadow Pipits busy with nesting. Some had just started building, some were half done, and some had just finished and laid an egg or two.

"Those will do well," she thought. "The Meadow Pipits made good nurses for my last year's babies."

So round the common she flew, making quite sure where each nest was; and presently she chose to visit one with three eggs in it.

"Bother!" said the Mother Meadow Pipit to her husband. "Here comes the Cuckoo. Do shoo her off!"

So he flew in Mrs Cuckoo's

Forests in Wales

PIT PROPS READY

NORWAY spruce trees forming part of a 15,000-acre forest at Clocaenog, near Ruthin, Denbighshire, are now being felled for use as pit props. They were planted in 1913 by the Forestry Commission, and the felling is a necessary thinning process which from now on will be a continual source of revenue.

Mr A. P. Long, Director of the Forestry Commission in Wales, has stated that it is expected that in ten years 85,000 acres in Wales will be transformed into plantations. The trees will be planted on poor, uncultivated land, and great care will be taken to see that no agricultural land will be used or interfered with.

The forests will not only help industry but will repopulate rural areas. New villages will be built, saw mill-industries will be developed, and thriving communities will grow up.

India's Model Brigade

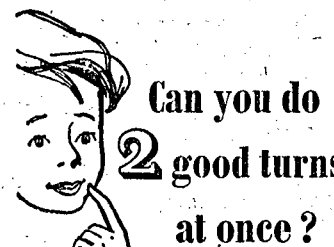
THE Indian Army is to raise a Brigade of Guards similar to that in the British Army. Recruits for the First Battalion must be six feet in height, but for the Third Battalion the minimum height has been reduced to five feet for the Gurkhas, who are usually short men but are among the most famous soldiers in India.

The Indian Brigade of Guards will be recruited from men of all castes, religions, and provinces. Hitherto it has generally been the custom in the Indian Army to recruit a regiment from men of the same caste or religion and from the same district.

Two afternoons later Mrs Cuckoo laid an egg in another Meadow Pipit's nest, and two days after that in a third nest. And so she went on, till all seven Meadow Pipits nesting on the common had one of her eggs to hatch with their own.

And when the eggs did hatch out how well they looked after the baby cuckoos, too! They fed them until they were much bigger than they were themselves.

So when July came, and Mr and Mrs Cuckoo flew back to Africa, they knew their children would soon be strong enough to follow them.



Can you do
2 good turns
at once?

Mother sometimes gives you an odd copper when you do a job for her and this is how you can turn one good turn into two and help the N.S.P.C.C. to help unhappy children. Save up these coppers and, when you've collected 2/6, send it in with the form below, which you should cut out and fill in. This will make you a member of the League of Pity, the Children's Branch of the N.S.P.C.C. The League will then send you a Blue Bird Badge to keep and wear and, on loan, a Blue Egg in which to put your League savings. You can be sure that every penny you earn or collect will help the N.S.P.C.C. to make some poor, ill-treated boy or girl happy. That's a worthwhile target, isn't it?



SEND THIS COUPON NOW

TO THE LEAGUE OF PITY, VICTORY HOUSE, LEICESTER SQUARE, W.C.2

Please enrol me as a Member. I enclose P.O. for 2/6.

NAME

ADDRESS

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS



NO CLOCKWORK—NO FUEL—NO BATTERY

This new Ray-powered Motor-Car is a most amazing novelty toy. Car is propelled by the unseen harmless rays emitted from the Ray-Control Stick. To see the car going in this way will astonish and mystify your friends. A most fascinating toy. In box with directions. Send NOW P.O. or stamps 3/9 to:

Wm. PENN, LTD. (Dept. CW/5),
585 High Road, Finchley, London, N.12

EX-COMMANDO & R.A.F. FISHING OUTFIT

Ex-Govt. Stock at fraction of production cost, comprises: Line Winder with 60 ft. extra strong flax Running Line, Sliding Float, 3 Lead Sinkers, 2 Gut Casts, 4 Gut Hooks, Preserved Bait, Fly, Spinning Spoon, 3-hook Eel Tackle, including one tackle ready for use, Spring Rod End Ring to attach to any bough or rod. With easy directions to assemble, cast, bait, etc. Send 4/- P.O. or stamps to:

Wm. PENN, LTD. (Dept. CW/6),
585 High Road, Finchley, London, N.12

DR. BARNARDO'S HOMES

Not Subsidised—Not Nationalised—Still Dependent on Public Support



Please help to refill the larder for 7,000 needy children in Dr. Barnardo's Homes. 21,000 meals are provided daily.

10/-
will buy one child's food for a week. Being a partner in this Christian work by being host to a child or two for a week or more. Cheques, etc. (crossed), payable "Dr. Barnardo's Homes" should be sent to 8 Barnardo House, Stepney Causeway, London, E.1.

A new complete story of BILL and JILL, the C.N. twins

Their stamp collection includes more than one...

Penny Red

Told by Frank S. Pepper



"Don't put that wrapping paper in the salvage, Uncle Dick!" exclaimed Jill Watson. "It has one of the new elevenpenny stamps on it. Bill and I have been waiting ages to get one for our collection."

Uncle Dick looked at the piece of paper he had just taken from a parcel. He examined the stamp. "An elevenpenny one?" echoed Uncle Dick. "I never even knew there was such a thing."

"There aren't a lot of them about," Jill explained. "Elevenpenny stamps were issued for the first time about 18 months ago."

"Here it is then," said Uncle Dick, as he tried to pull the stamp off the wrapping paper.

Jill's twin brother Bill stopped him with a horrified cry.

"Don't do it that way, Uncle Dick, or you'll spoil it," he protested. "Gosh, you don't know very much about stamps, do you? Just cut round it, and we'll float it off with a little water."

THE twins brought out their stamp album, and opened it at the page for the stamps of Great Britain.

Uncle Dick examined the page. "But why have you saved two of each of some of these?" he asked. "I should have thought one would have been enough."

"They aren't really the same," Bill began to explain. "You see, before the war—"

Before he could finish what he meant to say he was interrupted by a knock on the door. It was Mrs. Priskett, the landlady.

"Oh, Mr. Watson, there is a Mr. Boyle asking for you," she said.

"Good!" smiled Uncle Dick. "Show him up, please."

The twins looked questioningly at their uncle.

"I've been saving this for a surprise," chuckled Uncle Dick. "Mr. Boyle has a car for sale, and I'm thinking of buying it."

"A car!" cried the twins excitedly. "It isn't a very new one," warned Uncle Dick. "But I've had it out for a trial run and it seems to me to be in quite good condition."

Mrs. PRISKETT came back with the visitor.

"I'll bring you some tea," she whispered to Uncle Dick.

Mr. Boyle was a big, florid man with a jovial, hearty manner. He shook hands with Uncle Dick as if they were long-lost brothers. Then he beamed at the twins.

"What cute youngsters!" he boomed. "Smart, too, I guess."

He patted Bill on the head.

"And how are you, my little man?" he asked.

Bill muttered a polite reply and turned away to hide a scowl. He objected to being patted on the head as if he were a sheep-dog; and he didn't like people who called him "little man."

The visitor turned to Uncle Dick.

"Shall we get down to business?" he asked breezily. "No need to waste time haggling, is there? I can tell you you'll be

getting a bargain if you buy this car. I wouldn't be letting it go so cheaply if I didn't need some ready money in a hurry. True, it's twelve years old. But I bought it second-hand when it had done only about a thousand miles, and I've taken care of it."

"It's a good car," agreed Uncle Dick. "And if everything else is above board—"

"All square and above board!" boomed Mr. Boyle. "Here is the log-book. You can see for yourself. Fully taxed. Only two owners. Here's the insurance certificate. And here is the receipt I got when I bought it, properly made out and signed across two penny stamps."

UNCLE DICK examined the documents and nodded.

"Everything seems to be quite in order," he agreed.

Then he broke off.

Jill was whispering to her brother, and Uncle Dick just caught the one word "stamps."

"What are you whispering about?" asked Uncle Dick reprovingly.

"We were just talking about our stamp collection," Bill said.

Mrs. Priskett came in with the tea-tray.

"I'll pour," Jill volunteered.

She picked up the teapot. Then she gave a little squeal of dismay. The pot slipped, and scalding tea splashed into Mr. Boyle's lap.

"I'm so sorry!" gasped Jill. "The handle was hot!"

While Uncle Dick was helping to mop hot tea from his visitor's trouser-leg, Bill stepped quietly to a desk by the wall, lifted the lid, and snatched out Uncle Dick's cheque-book. There were only two cheque forms left in the book. Bill hurriedly ripped them out and pushed them into his pocket without either Uncle Dick or Mr. Boyle noticing what he had done.

WHEN calm had been restored Uncle Dick turned to his visitor.

"I think we can settle this matter without any more debate," he said. "I'll write you a cheque."

The twins watched breathlessly as their uncle went to the desk and opened his cheque-book.

He gave a gasp of dismay.

"It's empty!" he exclaimed. "I had no idea. I could have sworn that there were one or two left. This is most annoying. We can't settle this matter until tomorrow. I must go round to the bank first thing in the morning to get a new cheque-book."

Mr. Boyle's round face lost its usual jolly grin.

"I've got one or two other people after this car," he warned. "I'll give you until tomorrow, but that's my limit. If you aren't able to pay by then—"

"Everything will be all right if you come back tomorrow," Uncle Dick promised eagerly. "I just can't understand how I came to overlook the fact that my cheque-book was empty."

When Mr. Boyle had gone Bill took the two cheque forms

from his pocket and handed them back to Uncle Dick.

"I tore them out of the book," he confessed, "when you weren't looking."

The twins had never seen their uncle look so angry.

"How dare you do such a thing!" he cried. "We must try to call Mr. Boyle back."

"Don't do that!" pleaded Jill hurriedly. "We only did it to stop you from buying the car. Mr. Boyle is a fraud. Those documents can't be genuine."

"Of course they are genuine. And Mr. Boyle is a very nice man. He is only selling the car because he is going to New Zealand," Uncle Dick replied angrily. "You had no right to interfere in things you know nothing about."

"But this is something we do know about," urged Bill. "We think you ought to tell the police!"

WHEN Mr. Boyle came back the next morning he found Uncle Dick talking to a stranger, a heavy, square-shouldered man.

"Good morning, Mr. Boyle," said Uncle Dick. "This is Mr. Garrett. Before I hand you the cheque I'd like you to show him the car's log-book and other papers. He knows more about these things than I do."

For a moment a hostile look came into Mr. Boyle's eye. Then he pulled himself together and gave a good-natured chuckle.

"I don't blame you for wanting to be on the safe side. Business is business. Here you are, sir! Everything in order."

Mr. Garrett accepted the documents. He squared his jaw grimly. Then he looked at Uncle Dick.

"These young people saved you from getting into a nasty mess. That car is a stolen one."

MR. BOYLE'S good-nature suddenly vanished. His face twisted into an ugly snarl.

"Hey!" he exclaimed. "What are you getting at? Don't you dare say the car was stolen. I'll sue you. The car is mine, bought and paid for. There's the receipt to prove it, all properly stamped and signed."

"I'm a police officer, Mr. Boyle—if that is your real name," answered Mr. Garrett grimly. "I must ask you to come with me to the station. I'll take charge of these documents."

"What's wrong with 'em?" snarled Boyle.

Until now the twins had kept silent. Then Bill spoke.

"You're not a stamp collector, are you, Mr. Boyle?" he asked.

"I'm not. But what's that got to do with it?"

"Neither is Uncle Dick. That's why he didn't notice that the colour of the stamps was wrong."

"Is this a joke?" grated Boyle. "Is somebody trying to make a fool of me? The stamps are red. What's wrong with that? Penny stamps are always red."

"But these are a pale red," Bill pointed out. "This receipt couldn't possibly have been made out twelve years ago. The stamps then were a much deeper colour. You see, it wasn't until the war that, as an economy measure, they began to print our stamps in these pale colours."

Boyle looked as if he was about to explode.

Mr. Garrett took his arm. "Come along!" he invited. "You may know a lot about faking documents, but you've still got everything to learn about stamps."

Another Bill and Jill story soon

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12. THE BRAN TUB

SAME TO YOU

LITTLE JILL had promised to write to her father, who was away for a month on business. She sat down and wrote:

"Dear Daddie, We are all well and happy. The baby has grown a lot since you went away and has much more sense than he used to have. Hoping the same of you, your loving daughter, JILL."

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Destructive May-bugs. In the Big-woods swarms of chestnut-coloured beetles thronged the oak trees.

"Beastly things!" complained Don. "What are they?"

"Cockchafers, or May-bugs," replied Farmer Gray. "Some years they are more numerous than others. Their life as a winged beetle lasts but a few weeks. During that time they wreak havoc in the foliage of trees, particularly oaks and elms. Actually, cockchafers live three or four years, but most of that time is spent in the larval stage. It is then that they incur the wrath of farmers and gardeners by eating the roots of crops."

Enigma

No man has ever seen it yet, or will;
But it has power to move what would be still.
It may be kind, it may be cruel, too;
It may refresh, or make one feel quite blue.
Curtail it, and you'll find no loss.
Indeed,
You have the bidding, plainly, to succeed.

Answer next week

COUNTRYSIDE FLOWERS

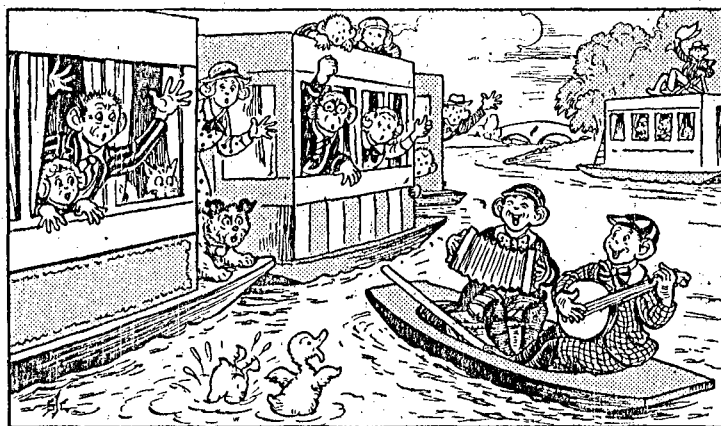
Comfrey

COMFREY is generally found growing on the banks of streams or ditches. The drooping, bell-like flowers which grow on one side of the stout stems, vary in colour. Sometimes they are yellowish-white, but more often they are a dull, pinkish-purple shade. The large, hairy leaves, shaped something like lance-heads, have wavy edges and sprout direct from the stem, giving the plant an odd, winged appearance.

Comfrey grows from two to three feet high, and in olden times was famed for its powers of healing.



Jacko's River Entertainment



ONE peaceful Saturday afternoon Jacko and Chimp went punting along the river. They took a concertina and a banjo along with them to provide the houseboat residents with a little musical interlude—"They'll probably be bored with nothing to do." But, oddly enough, the houseboaters did not at all relish this new entertainment. In fact they made it quite clear that our heroes were definitely not welcome. "They've obviously no music in their souls," muttered Jacko as they hastily punted away from the storm of angry abuse.

MAD AS A HATTER

THERE is a popular belief that in the spring adders are often mad and that during this time their bite is more poisonous. Mad as a hatter is probably a corruption of the saying Mad as an adder.

There is another theory of the origin of the saying, based on the story of a man, a hatter by trade, who was elected to serve on a local council. After the election he was found to be quite mad. It is probable, however, that the expression is older than the story.

Yorkshire Rivers

In each line of this verse the name of one Yorkshire river is hidden. Can you find the eight rivers?

An eager yearning fills my heart,
My quiet house I must depart,
Soft breezes kiss my naked feet,
And cool midsummer's burning heat.

A fair enchantress on the shore
Allures my senses to explore.
The pretty dear ne'er heeds, I fear,
The bold oncomer drawing near.

Answer next week

MOPPING-UP OPERATIONS

A GLUTTONOUS schoolboy named Mopp
Went into the village tuck-shop.
He ate puddings and pies,
Several cakes of great size,
And drank seventeen bottles of pop.

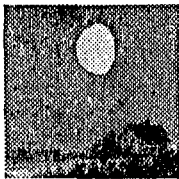
What Is It?

ONCE given, you will find this true,
Twirl never more came back to you.
Yet, having given, you must try
To keep it till the day you die.

from 4104

Other Worlds

IN the evening Saturn is in the south and Mercury is in the west. In the morning Jupiter is in the south-east. The picture shows the Moon at 6 o'clock on Wednesday morning, May 18.



NOBLE FELLOW

"UNSELFISHNESS," explained the teacher, "is going without something that we need. Can any of you tell me an unselfish person you know?"

A hand shot up. "Yes, teacher—my little brother; he tries every day to go without washing."

Children's Hour

BBC Programmes from Wednesday, May 18, to Tuesday, May 24.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 Good Will Day. 5.15 The Tortoise—a story; St Felix School, Southwold, Choir. North, 5.0 Children's Concert.

THURSDAY, 5.0 Pinocchio (3). N. Ireland, 5.30 A story; My Bulbul—a talk; Plano, North, 5.30 How's it Done? Welsh, 5.0 Programme in Welsh. 5.30 Caernarvon Castle (3).

FRIDAY, 5.0 Stella Polaris (5). 5.40 Talk. N. Ireland, 5.40 Things I Wouldn't Have Missed (3).

SATURDAY, 5.0 A Rhyming Story; Aboard the Merry-matanzle. Midland, 5.0 Odd Quarter and the Royal Cuckoos—a story; A Children's Darkie Minstrel Show; The Blue Mountains—a travel talk. North, 5.0 News from Chester Zoo; Four in Hand; Puzzle Programme. West, 5.0 Clara Chuff (8); The Church on Brent Tor—a story; An Army Cadet Force Bugle Band.

SUNDAY, 5.0 Henrietta's House (3).

MONDAY, 5.0 This Week's Programmes. 5.05 A Nursery Programme. 5.30 Chippy—a story; Records. Midland, 5.0 This Week's Programmes; Swimming Championship. North, 5.0 Stuff and Nonsense; London Log. Scottish, 5.0 The Week's Programmes; Exploring the Hut-Country.

TUESDAY, 5.0 Bud and the Badgers (2); Records. 5.20 Set to Music (No 5). Midland, 5.20 Smethwick Hall Girls' School Choir; A Ski Trip in Lapland. North, 5.0 Nursery Sing-Song; Story; Examination Pieces; Current Affairs. Scottish, 5.0 The Lucky Jar of Jam; Roger Quilter's Children's Overture; The Little Goat Girl; Round the Countryside. Welsh, Programme in Welsh.

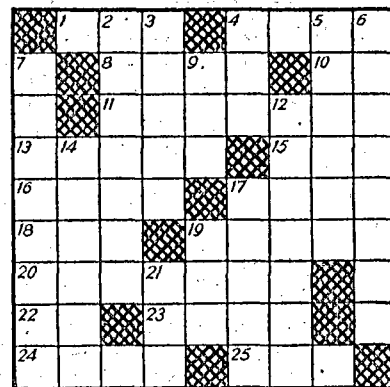
Cross Word Puzzle

Reading Across. 1 Towards the stern of a ship. 4 A way over the mountains. 8 By word of mouth. 10 Chartered Accountant. 11 Mentioned again. 13 A song of praise. 15 Termination. 16 To prepare for publication. 17 This is on the toe. 18 Torn piece of material. 19 Bronze coins. 20 Heated to point of combustion. 22 A South American sloth. 23 A system of signals. 24 Knowledge. 25 Yours.*

Reading Down. 2 Coming from another country. 3 To act towards. 4 Port of London Authority.* 5 Theatrical. 6 Harness makers. 7 Of a sovereign state. 9 Girl's name. 12 To wander at random. 14 Leisurely, in music. 17 Very poor. 19 Please turn over.* 21 Solid water.

Asterisks indicate abbreviations. Answer next week

The Children's Newspaper, May 21, 1949



Turning the Tables

"WHAT is your greatest aim in life?" asked Auntie.
"To give my teacher an arithmetic test," answered her small nephew.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Missing Figures
197 multiplied by 541 equals 106577.

Hidden Elements

Hail, rain, sleet, snow, wind, frost, thunder.

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